

DECEMBER 8, 1883

# THE GRAPHIC

ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

No. 732.—VOL. XXVIII.

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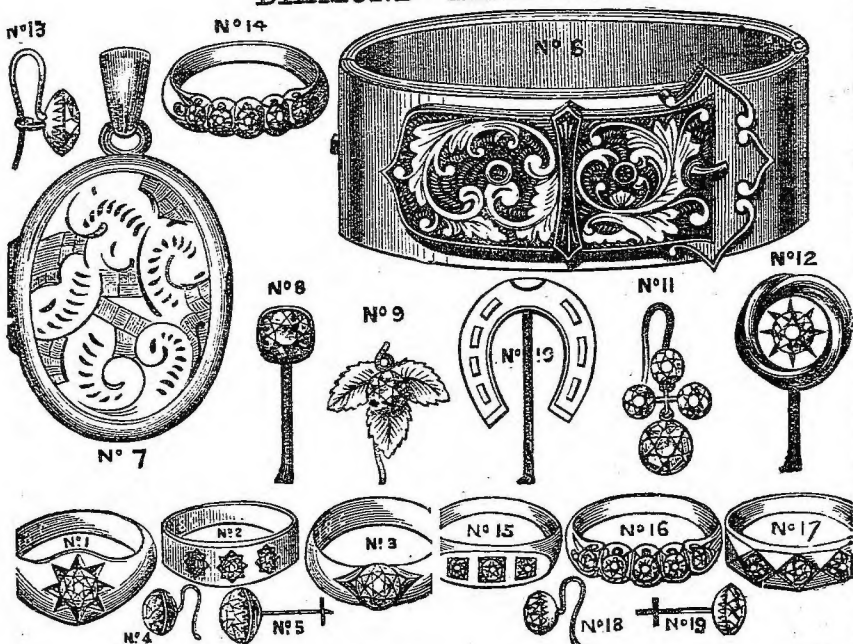
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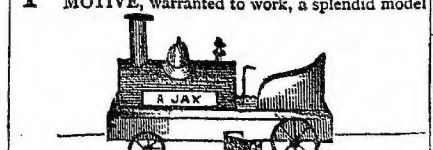
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1883

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1. General View of the Excavations which are being made between the Forum and the Palace of the Caesars.—2. The Flooring of One of the Vestals' Bedchambers.—3. The Large Hall or Atrium of the Vestals' Palace.—4. Three Tablets, just Excavated, bearing Inscriptions to Certain Vestals.—5. A Fragment of Marble Pavement in the Atrium.

THE RECENT EXCAVATIONS IN ROME—DISCOVERY OF THE HOUSE OF THE VESTAL VIRGINS



THE PERFORMANCE OF THE "ELECTRA" OF SOPHOCLES BY LADIES AT GIRTON COLLEGE, NEAR CAMBRIDGE



## Topics of the Week

**CONSERVATIVE INDECISION.**—Notwithstanding their success in various recent elections, there is no sign that the Conservatives are making much way in the country generally. This cannot be said to be due to the popularity of the Government, for the Government excites little enthusiasm even among its most faithful supporters. In India, in Egypt, in the Transvaal, its management of affairs has been anything but skilful: and at home it has hitherto been more remarkable for its promises than for its achievements. The true cause of the comparative weakness of the Conservatives seems to be their own indecision rather than the power of their opponents. During the recess the nation has been addressed by all the Tory leaders; and they themselves must be aware that they have made but scanty contributions to serious political thought. Lord Salisbury, indeed, has promoted the discussion as to the housing of the poor; but on most other subjects he and his colleagues have contented themselves with merely negative criticism. Even about the question of Parliamentary reform they have spoken vaguely; and nobody knows what would be the general lines of their policy if they were restored to office. Everything the Government does or proposes to do they denounce; but they do not go on to indicate the better course which they themselves would pursue. It may be assumed that if in power they would make an end of the Ilbert Bill; but what would they do in the Transvaal and in Egypt? How would they deal with the question of municipal reform in London? Would they propose any change in the system of county government? Are they perfectly satisfied with the present state of the Land Laws? About these matters their only definite opinion appears to be that a Liberal Government cannot deal with them successfully; and that is certainly not an opinion for the sake of which the most moderate of moderate Liberals would care to transfer his allegiance from Mr. Gladstone to Lord Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote.

**AMERICAN POLITICS.**—Except to the professional adventurers, who are always striving for the loaves and fishes of office, politics in the United States have for some time past been very devoid of interest. Happy is the nation of whom this can be said. Just now, however, there is a slight break in the monotony. Mr. Carlisle, the new Democratic Speaker of the House of Representatives, has been elected on account of his revenue-reform leanings, and this choice may have important consequences, because the Speaker of the Lower House exercises considerable control over the Committees. Hitherto, the Democrats have been divided between Free Trade and Protection, now it would seem as if they meant to make Free Trade the principal plank in their platform, thus bidding for the support of the agricultural South and West against the manufacturing interests which prevail in the States of the Atlantic seaboard. It is quite possible, however, that the movement is not intended to result in any immediate practical issues, and is merely devised to regain, if possible, the ground which the Democratic party has undoubtedly lost during the last twelve months, and which renders the election of a President representing that party less probable than it was at one time. Anyhow, English Free Traders need not anticipate any very sweeping reductions in the Customs' duties. The United States are so big, so varied in their products, and, even now, so thinly peopled, that they can get on very comfortably although wrapped in the swaddling-clothes of Protection. Indeed, the end of the nineteenth century is more likely to see England (especially if the land should be parcelled out among small cultivators) returning to Protection than America converted to Free Trade. Turning to another topic, President Arthur has just issued his Annual Message, and it happily contains nothing of a sensational character. Considering the tens of thousands of strong willing workers which these small islands have sent across the Atlantic during the last forty years, the Americans might excuse a few paupers slipping in occasionally; and we cannot help thinking that this clause in the Message is rather designed to please the Irish element in the States, than because it indicates a keenly-felt grievance. The other clause in the Message which is perhaps most interesting for dwellers on this side of the Atlantic is that which proposes more stringent regulations against the Mormons. But it is pretty well known that it is not their many-wifedness which renders those remarkable religionists unpopular, but the fact that they have built up an *imperium in imperio* in the United States. They have no great enthusiasm for the Stars and Stripes. At the same time, it is doubtful whether a prudent statesman ought to meddle with them. They are far and away the best-behaved and most industrious people in Utah Territory, and it would be more in accordance with American precedent to let them alone to work out their own destiny.

**MR. SPEAKER.**—Mr. Goschen has refused the Speakership for a reason which would have amazed the Herren von Forckenbeck, von Seydewitz, and Hofmann, German Speakers. These gentlemen, presiding over assemblies of legislators most of whom wore spectacles or double-eyeglasses, were themselves clear-sighted only in a figurative sense. Mr. Goschen would have made a perspicacious and

popular Speaker, and it is much to be regretted that he was unable to accept a post for which his independence of character and great acumen most eminently qualified him. The precedent established in Mr. Brand's case of appointing a party Whip to the Speakership was not on general grounds a happy one, and there is little to say for it now that Speakers have been entrusted with more power than they formerly possessed. It is too often forgotten that the Presidents of Continental Legislatures, though they wield quasi-despotic authority, are held in check by being elected for very short terms. They are usually returned for one Session only; and, if they have exercised their authority too strenuously, their re-election is opposed in a manner which, even if they are victorious, places them often in a painful and trying position. In England Speakers are elected for the whole duration of Parliament, and it is customary that they should receive the compliment of being re-elected *nem. con.*; sometimes, indeed—as happened with Sir Henry Brand—they are re-elected on the motion of the party opposed to them. But it is obvious that these courtesies, which have contributed so much to the dignity of the Speaker's office, will not long survive if the chair in the House of Commons is set up as a prize for the most active sort of partisanship. It is not enough that a Speaker should be impartial; he should be above the suspicion of partiality. A member of long experience, not noted for his party zeal, but rational, good-humoured, and liked on both sides of the House, would always be the best man for the Commons' Chair.

**AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS AND THE FRANCHISE.**—Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Trevelyan have presented once more an elaborate argument in support of the proposed extension of the suffrage to agricultural labourers; and almost all Liberals agree with them that we have now reached the time when this great change ought to be made. Timid Conservatives warn us that the introduction of the measure will be attended by grave perils, but as they indulged in dismal forebodings with regard to the first and second Reform Bills, their prophecies on the present occasion do not produce a very deep impression. At the same time, it would be easy to over-rate the beneficent consequences which are likely to proceed from the admission of agricultural labourers to the franchise. Mr. Chamberlain, for instance, talks of the scheme as if he expected it to change the whole character of English life. But what Liberal measure of the foremost rank that could not be secured now would be secured with the help of the new voters? Agricultural labourers can hardly be more genuine Liberals than artisans; and artisans, if united, can always determine the character of an election in most English and Scotch towns. Besides, it is not at all certain that agricultural labourers will invariably vote in the manner recommended by Radical orators. If not exactly Conservative, they may still be much more under the influence of "the squire and the parson" than Mr. Chamberlain supposes. The true argument for the enfranchisement of this important class is, not that they will promote any particular tendency of legislation, but that, like all other classes, they have a right to a voice in the making of laws by which their welfare is affected, and for the maintenance of which they have, directly or indirectly, to pay. Experience has shown that classes which are not represented receive inadequate attention, and there is no reason to suppose that agricultural labourers form any exception to this general rule.

**THE WEXFORD RIOTS.**—These disturbances afford a very conclusive reply to Mr. O'Connor Power's arguments at Birmingham. He and his friend Mr. Jesse Collings desire that Irishmen should be allowed to manage the whole of their domestic affairs. We in this island should be only too glad if this plan could be carried out, but is it practically possible? If the controlling hand of the Imperial Government were withdrawn, would not civil war ensue? A red-hot Nationalist priest, speaking the other day at Newry, asserted that there were only 700,000 Protestants in Ireland to 4,300,000 Roman Catholics. We think he has somewhat understated the number of Protestants, but let that pass. The practical question is whether these 700,000 can safely be left to the mercy of the numerical majority. Messrs. Moody and Sankey are a most inoffensive pair of religious teachers, they do not meddle with controversial theology, but endeavour to touch the hearts of their hearers. Yet their appearance in Wexford was the signal for a disgraceful riot, which presently became an attack on the churches, houses, and persons of Protestants. There is no reason to suppose that Wexford differs from other towns in the three southern Provinces, and therefore it may be imagined that, if the Imperial "garrison" were withdrawn, Protestants generally would not feel very comfortable. There is another alternative, of course, namely, that the Protestants should leave the island *en masse*, bag and baggage, or, perhaps Mr. Healy would advise, without their baggage, that being the product of detestable "landlordism." The four millions of Roman Catholics left behind might possibly agree together theologically, but we fancy they would soon wish the Protestants back again, as being the chief pioneers and promoters of all important industries. It is this superiority which explains the excess of Protestant over Roman Catholic magistrates, and which Mr. O'Connor Power regards as such a grievance.

**PORTUGAL AND ENGLAND.**—There is perhaps not a nation on the Continent with which England has lived on such excellent terms for two centuries as Portugal. The good understanding commenced rather inauspiciously with the marriage of Catherine of Braganza to Charles II., but the treaty signed on that occasion, chiefly with the view of damaging the French wine trade, brought port wine to England almost free of duty, and was the means of establishing the most solid commercial relations between the two countries. Our fathers owed many a jolly hour—we need not mention gout—to the rich vintage of Oporto, and Portuguese writers like Vasconcellos have acknowledged that their country has derived much benefit, political as well as pecuniary, from its intercourse with our people. We are sorry, therefore, that our old allies should be temporarily ruffled by the idea that their Crown Prince has not been received with sufficient state on his visit to England. The Lisbon papers have been urging that since the Prince of Wales was honoured by so magnificent a national welcome when he went to visit Luis I., the Duke of Braganza ought in his turn to have been made much of by the English. We can hardly believe, however, that no steps were taken to ascertain the King of Portugal's wishes about his son's reception before the latter came to England. Had Prince Charles arrived here in anticipation of a grand ceremonial and lavish hospitalities, it would certainly have been a very shabby proceeding to relegate him to an hotel; but pettiness in the treatment of foreign visitors has never been the failing of our Court, while the English people are usually ready to give a hearty national welcome to any Prince whom the Queen wishes to see greeted as a national guest. We must conclude, then, that the Duke of Braganza was received simply as he wished to be received. These matters are always privately arranged between diplomatists, and Lord Granville is not at all likely to have made a mistake.

**CHRISTIAN SOCIALISM.**—An attempt is being made by some enthusiastic clergymen in England and Germany to associate Christianity with the Socialist movement. It may be doubted whether the result is likely to be in accordance with their wishes. In all countries the majority of Socialists have little sympathy either with Christianity or with any other form of religion. As a rule they are bitterly hostile to Churches, and are scarcely less violent in their denunciations of priests than in their denunciations of capitalists. The interference of clergymen on their behalf, therefore, they are apt to regard as a sort of "dodge," and true Socialists are warned to be on their guard against the devices of men who, notwithstanding friendly protestations, are believed to be secret enemies. On the other hand, Socialist clergymen certainly do not increase their influence among the classes opposed to revolutionary doctrines. They receive no credit for the philanthropic motives about which they talk so freely, but are, on the contrary, supposed to be dominated either by fanaticism or by a foolish craving for notoriety. On the whole, then, the chances seem to be that these ardent clerical reformers do much more harm than good, even from their own point of view, by going beyond what has hitherto been considered the proper sphere of ministers of religion. After all, what reason can there be for asserting that Christianity is more favourable to Socialism than to any other political theory? It may be admitted that if a Socialist State were established Christianity would continue to appeal to all the elements of human nature to which it appeals now; but it would be to condemn its whole history to say that it is compatible only with one form of social organisation. The mission of Christianity has been to create and foster a certain religious and moral spirit, not to overthrow or construct particular systems of government.

**THE HANGMAN.**—When we reflect on the terrible deaths which are every day taking place around us—thousands of persons dying after months of agony from such a malady as cancer, for example—it seems strange that people should make such a stir over the last moments of murderers who never scruple what tortures, mental and bodily, they wilfully inflict on their victims. It is not death of which people really need stand in awe, but the unknown future to which death opens the portals. Strangulation may perhaps—though we doubt it—be a more painful mode of death than dislocation of the neck; but either of these is to all outward appearance far less painful than the extinction of life in those persons who die in their beds, and who have endured a more or less prolonged ordeal of weakness, weariness, and pain. We speak thus because we feel disgusted with this morbid tenderness for the last moments of murderers; but, nevertheless, we fully admit that, if culprits are to be hanged at all, they should be put to death in a workmanlike manner. Mr. Binns, the lately-appointed Jack Ketch, was accused of bungling the other day at Liverpool. It was also hinted that he was the worse for drink. He denies the bungling, and declares that he was sober. We will not venture to decide this point; but we think there is room for improvement in the system generally. The kind of man who undertakes this grisly office is usually a coarse and illiterate personage; but as his functions render him, in the eyes of the mob, a personage of note, he lives in a blaze of publicity, and interviewing, and being stood treat to. Is there any remedy? The only remedy we can suggest is that the hangman should be a State functionary, like the hereditary executioner of the old French Monarchy, and not a mere nominee of the Sheriffs of London. If a fairly adequate salary were given,



a man of education might be secured. A naval or military officer would be preferable, and he would, of course, be provided with a helper to do the pinioning and so forth. The proposed change might cost a little more, but such scandals as those alleged to have occurred at Liverpool would be avoided.

**RESTAURANT TRICKS.**—Diners who order expensive wines at restaurants will do well to keep an eye on the waiter who draws the corks. A neglect of this precaution on the part of the Parisian public has enabled a certain M. Garnier, proprietor of the "Restaurant Baratte," to sell within seven years about 20,000 bottles of white currant decoction, worth fifteenpence each, as Moët and Chandon's champagne, at twelve to fifteen francs the bottle. The thing was managed first by capping the spurious bottles with the green sealing wax which the M. and C. Company use; and then by instructing the waiters to conceal in their napkins a Moët and Chandon cork every time they opened a bottle of the white currant stuff. The diners seeing the cork with the well-known brand, which the waiter was always careful to deposit on the table, drank with faith and were satisfied; but M. Garnier has regretfully confessed that he was never able to hoax those sharp customers who either insisted upon drawing their own corks, or who kept a close eye on waiters trying to perform the napkin trick. MM. Moët and Chandon have prosecuted M. Garnier, and he has been sentenced to fifteen days' imprisonment and a fine of 80*fr.*, besides which he is to pay 400*fr.* damages to the prosecutors, and to publish the text of the judgment at his own expense in ten newspapers. An edifying feature in the trial was the readiness with which a troop of M. Garnier's waiters came to testify against their master; but we observe that these good servants said nothing about two other tricks which we believe are pretty frequently practised in restaurants of a certain sort. One of these devices consists in adding up the number of a table or the day of the month with the column of francs or shillings as the case may be. This, of course, can only be done when the figure of the bill is pretty high; but in such a case the imposition is a safe one, for if the error be noticed it is at once apologised for as a mistake, while an unobservant customer will pay without question. The other trick is the giving of short change in this wise:—The waiter brings the change on a plate with the bill; under the bill he has concealed a piece of silver or gold, and the instant the customer has picked up the change that is scattered over the paper, the plate is whisked away. If the customer discovers that he has short change, the bill is lifted, and it seems as if the piece of money had slipped under it by accident; but this trick is generally played on customers who are entertaining guests, and do not like to count their change too anxiously. Moral: Always remove the bill from the plate.

**"LORD TENNYSON."**—Mr. Tennyson is so eminent a man of letters, and is so universally respected, that it is not in the power even of the Crown to add much to his real dignity. At the same time no one will grudge him whatever honour may be supposed to be implied in his elevation to the Peerage. It is sometimes said that a great poet is seldom or never recognised by his own generation; but the truth is that there have been few poets of the first rank who have not lived to receive the homage of their contemporaries. Mr. Tennyson's genius was acknowledged at a very early stage of his career; and until the present time he has retained his place as the most popular poet of the Victorian age. He is not one of those writers who reveal wholly new aspects of truth, nor has he attempted in any of his writings (unless "In Memoriam" should be excepted) to sound the profoundest depths of human nature. Judged from this point of view, Mr. Browning would perhaps be admitted by most critics to hold higher rank. But no contemporary poet has surpassed Mr. Tennyson in the vigour and grace with which he has given expression to the ideas and feelings that have moved the mass of his countrymen in his own period. He owes much to the influence of Wordsworth and Keats; but his manner is essentially his own, and it is difficult to believe that a time will ever come when it will have altogether lost its charm. There is sometimes more art than impulse in his poetry, but his art at its best is so delicate and so finished that it cannot fail to secure for him a great and permanent position in English literature.

**A CAMPO SANTO.**—Mr. Alfred Austin's suggestion that a century should be allowed to elapse before a man's fame is consecrated by the erection of a monument to him in Westminster Abbey will not find much favour. Now that the Abbey is full, so that it cannot receive any more coffins, there may be two opinions about the propriety of establishing a Campo Santo such as Sir Gilbert Scott planned by building an annexe to the Great Cloisters; but it is desirable that our great men should continue to have monuments reared to them at Westminster, and every generation must be left to form its own estimate of greatness. If we rate a man too highly the very fact that we did so may teach some lesson to our descendants, and will at all events instruct future historians as to our judgment and taste. But greatness is a comparative term, and much good work done for the country's profit might remain unrequited if we bequeathed the charge of rewarding it to a distant age. We may fairly call a man great if he has stood out pre-eminently above the men of his

time, if he has well ruled, served, charmed, or even amused the generation in which he lives. Too often it has happened that a monument in Westminster Abbey has been the tardy recognition of a debt which the nation felt ought to have been paid in a more substantial form long before; and how shall the men of future time feel either our gratitude or our regrets as we feel them? Better after all they should say that we rewarded too much than too little; better they should think we were stirred at times by too generous impulses than that they should marvel at our ingratitude in having denied some little token of remembrance to men who had not grudged us the best of their talents.

**WHO IS MR. CHAMBERLAIN?**—Lord George Hamilton's biographical sketch of Mr. Chamberlain cannot be commended for imitation. Politics are better without these personalities. But we are not sure that Mr. Chamberlain is justified in characterising Lord George's narrative as "personal slander." Is competition a crime? Because, if it is not, there is nothing slanderous in saying that Mr. Chamberlain's firm sold their screws so cheap that they beat all their competitors out of the market. Many a small tradesman knows this to his cost. He has seen his customers vanishing day by day, and he knows that they have been magnetised away by some leviathan neighbour (the Stores, very likely), who can afford to sell cheaper than he can. This, therefore, which the Chamberlains did may not be heroic, but it is business-like; and possibly, as its tendency is to lessen prices and arouse energy, in the long run it conduces to the well-being of the community. Perhaps, however, it is really slanderous to say that Mr. Chamberlain lives "in a huge palace like a Sybarite." We don't exactly know how a Sybarite of this modern time does live, but we should doubt if Mr. Chamberlain's sleep is disturbed by the presence of a crumpled rose leaf. Wealthy men nowadays do not much indulge in out-of-the-way and unheard-of luxuries, but they usually have the things which smaller men have very good of their kind. Unless they are very bad managers, their wines, their horses, their coats, their tables, and their chairs, are all first-rate. There is therefore nothing morally wrong in being a Sybarite of this sort, for if it be right to ride a horse, it is right to ride a good horse, provided you can afford it, as can Mr. Chamberlain. To conclude. Mr. Chamberlain has brought these attacks upon himself by his foolish talk about hereditary landowners who neither toil nor spin. He should bear in mind the saying: *De te fabula narratur*. In the eyes of a Continental Socialist, who is a logical, if not a nice creature, Mr. Chamberlain, with his fortune made out of screws, is just as great a blood-sucker and oppressor as the nobleman who dates his patent from the Wars of Marlborough. In the presence of the common enemy, who may some day set about devouring them both, it is bad policy for the mercantile capitalist and the landed capitalist to indulge in mutual "Billingsgate."

**NOTICE.**—With this Number is issued an EXTRA DOUBLE PAGE SUPPLEMENT, entitled "ON BOARD A TRAINING-SHIP: PRIVATE THEATRICALS."



#### THE HALL OF THE VESTALS, ROME

ONE of the most interesting finds which have been unearthed in the Roman Forum has been the remains of the celebrated "Atrium Vestæ," or Hall of the Vestal Virgins, where the members of that most sacred order were wont to perform their rites, and tend the flame which night or day never ceased to burn upon the altar of Vesta. In October, while some workmen were clearing away the ground from a number of brick piers, they found that the piers rested upon rectangular marble pedestals. These were quickly brought to light, and were found to be some five feet high, and to bear inscriptions to three of the Vestales Maximæ, or sisters of the superior grade. The first testified to the virtues of Flavia Publicia, the second to another Sister Superior, and the third to Cælia Claudiana, who, it appears, filled her high office for twenty years. On the second was also inscribed the name of the Emperor Jovian, which fixes the date of the record at between 363-364 A.D. The Vestals' House of Residence, as far as can be ascertained, was a square building containing halls and apartments of all sizes, opening upon a large court, the well-known Atrium Vestæ of ancient writers. A great many statues had been raised and dedicated in this court in honour of the Vestales Maximæ, and these stood on pedestals which bore the dedicatory inscriptions. Twelve of them were found in 1497, and two more in 1549. "We could not hope for," writes the Roman correspondent of the *Athenæum*, "or expect clearer evidence by which to identify the spot. There is no doubt that in nearing the ancient level with our excavations we shall gather fresh and conclusive evidence. We have just discovered in a corner of the Atrium the lower portion of a female draped statue, the size of which corresponds exactly with the size of one of the pedestals preserved in the Palatine Studio."

Our illustrations are from sketches by Miss M. L. Harper, who writes:—"My first sketch is a general view of the excavations which are being made between the Forum and the Palace of the Cæsars. My second shows the flooring in one of the Vestal's bedchambers. The bricks which make the floor do not rest on the ground, but on large *amphoræ* which have been cut in two. This may have been to prevent damp by raising the floor. In No. 3 is the large hall or Atrium of the Vestals' Palace. At each side are three rooms, probably for the six vestals in office. No. 4 portrays three tablets, just excavated, with inscriptions to certain Vestals. Lastly, in No. 5 is shown a fragment of marble pavement in the Atrium. The marbles making the patterns are red, black, and yellow."

#### A GREEK PLAY AT GIRTON COLLEGE

GIRTON has just produced the *Electra* of Sophocles in a series of semi-private performances. The occasion was one of much interest, as Greek plays are not yet of every-day occurrence, and this is the

first undertaken by women. The arrangement of the stage and orchestra was closely copied from those of the *Ajax*, as produced last year at Cambridge; but the management of the whole was carried out by the students themselves. The scene is laid at Argos, and is, as usual, the front of the palace. The plot of the play is the return of Orestes to Argos in order to slay his mother, Clytemnestra, and Ægisthus, the murderers of his father. His sister, Electra, who sent him away from Argos for safety, has since lived a life of mourning in the palace, and her one hope is for revenge upon the King and Queen. Orestes directs his attendant to represent him as dead, and himself gives to Electra an urn which she believes to contain her brother's ashes. He then reveals himself to her, and she urges him to wreak vengeance on the murderers. The play ends with their death.

Happily, in the *Electra*, Orestes is the only male character of importance, and the part was played with an intelligent appreciation which did much to make up for the slight deficiency in masculine tone. Indeed, we think that few readers of the play would form so correct an idea of the character as was given at Girton. Orestes' dignity was an excellent foil to the passion of Electra, which, under the various aspects of grief, joy, and revenge, is the great theme of the tragedy. The scene represented in our engraving is the entrance of Clytemnestra, who has come to sacrifice to Apollo in consequence of an ominous dream. Electra has persuaded her sister, Chrysothemis, not to lay her mother's offerings upon the tomb of Agamemnon, but to offer instead locks from their own heads. She now starts up half-defiantly from her dejected posture, and receives Clytemnestra's taunts at first with bitter silence, then with a passionate declaration of her mother's crimes and her own hatred. Another scene of great beauty was that in which Orestes delivers the urn to Electra, and her rapid transition from wild grief to joy was one of the most powerful passages in the performance. Electra was excellently acted throughout.—Our engraving is from a sketch by Miss F. R. Gray, Maresfield Gardens, Hampstead, N.W.

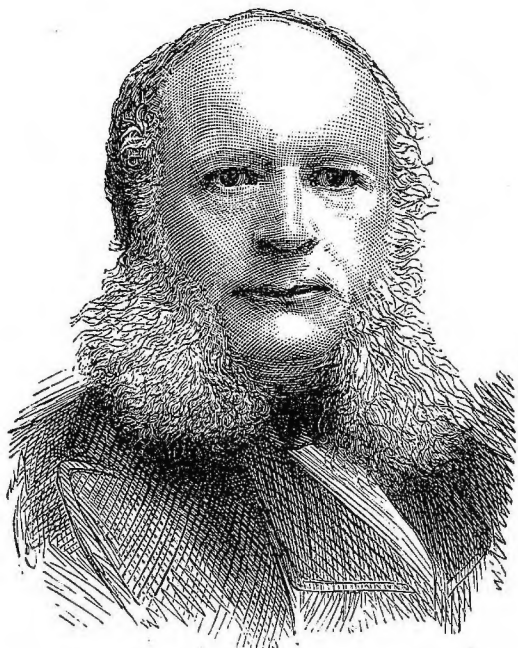
#### SIR WILLIAM SIEMENS

SIR CHARLES WILLIAM SIEMENS, whose untimely death took place on November 18th, was one of the greatest practical inventors whom the world has ever known. By practical inventors, we mean men who have not merely worked out theories in a laboratory or workshop and left other people to carry them into effect, but men who have brought their inventions to practical use, and have themselves demonstrated to the world their feasibility and utility. Such men were Watt and Stephenson, and such was Sir William Siemens. Born in 1823 at Lenthe, in Hanover, young Siemens was educated at Lüneburg and Magdeburg, and finished his academic career at Göttingen. He then served a year at the engine works of Count Stolberg, and at twenty years old went to England with an invention for electro-gilding. He was so ignorant of the language on landing, that he at first went to an "undertaker," thinking that such a personage would "undertake" to push his invention. Ultimately he applied to Messrs. Elkington, by whom he was assisted. The following year he came again to London with a "chronometric governor," which still regulates the movements of the great transit instrument at Greenwich. His next invention was a water-meter; and, when only twenty-four, he constructed a four-horse engine, with regenerative condensers, at Bolton, which gained the Gold Medal from the Society of Arts. This was the beginning of a long series of experiments on the conservation and utilisation of waste heat, which culminated in the perfection of his regenerative gas furnace. This alone of his inventions would suffice to hand down his name to posterity, as it is not only employed in the manufacture of steel and glass, but to other industries where intense heat is required. Mr. Siemens then turned his attention to steel-making, and the metal produced by his process is now, *Nature* tells us, used almost exclusively at the Royal Dockyards for the boilers and hulls of Her Majesty's vessels. Of later years, however, the name of Siemens has been closely allied with that growing science of the day, magneto-electricity, and his experiments regarding the conversion of dynamical into electrical force without the aid of permanent magnetism led to the well-known Siemens dynamo machines, which have contributed so greatly to the perfection of electric lighting. Later on also he did much for furthering electrical locomotion, and the Berlin Electrical Railway, the Electrical Railway at the Paris Electrical Exhibition, and the Port Rush Electrical Railway, which has just been inaugurated, were all constructed on his system. Various important inventions in telegraphy also emanated from the Siemens firm, for Sir William Siemens was greatly assisted in his researches by his two brothers, Messrs. Frederick and Werner Siemens. Indeed, it was after Sir William Siemens' designs that the well-known telegraph ship *Faraday* was constructed, by which the Direct United States Cable of 1874 was so successfully laid. As may have been seen at the recent Electrical Exhibitions, Sir William Siemens also effected great improvements in electric lighting. It would be impossible, however, in this short notice to record the numerous inventions due to his ingenuity and energy. At the time of his death he was full of plans for future appliances for saving heat, and noteworthy of a new method for the smokeless supply of heat to a steam boiler by the combustion of hydrogen, carburetted hydrogen, and carbonic oxide, obtained from the conversion into these gases of the whole combustible material of the coal, together with some hydrogen and oxygen from water and oxygen from air in his gas-producing kiln. Sir William Siemens, who for many years had been a naturalised British subject, was knighted for his scientific labours last March. He had previously been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1862, had been the first President of Telegraph Engineers, and President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, of the Iron and Steel Institute, and of the British Association. Our portrait is from a photograph by Van der Weyde, 182, Regent Street, W.

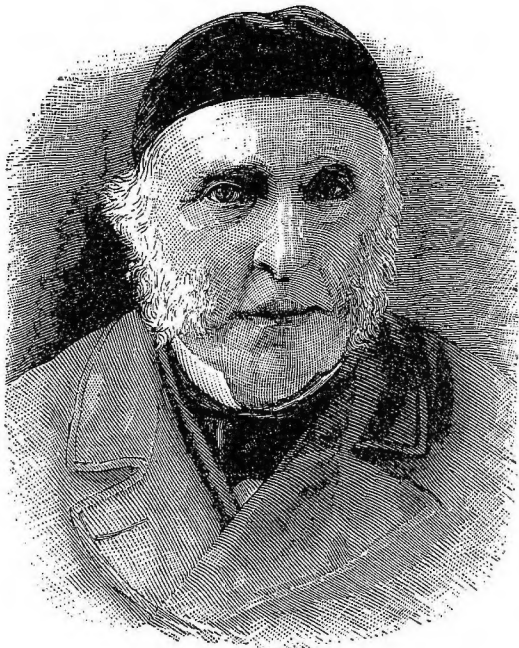
#### LORD OVERSTONE

LORD OVERSTONE's father, Mr. Lewis Loyd, was a banker, his mother was the daughter of a banker, and he was born at the bank premises (then Jones, Loyd, and Co., now the Westminster Bank) in Lothbury, September 25th, 1796. He was their only son. With so many influences, hereditary and otherwise, thus pulling him towards banking, it is almost a wonder that he did not, just out of contradiction, become famous in some totally different direction, a violinist, for example, or an explorer of strange countries. He remained faithful, however, to the family escutcheon, and although a man of varied tastes, and more especially a lover and connoisseur of pictures, finance was Lord Overstone's strong point. He was educated at Eton and Cambridge, and sat in the House of Commons as M.P. for Hythe from 1819 to 1826. But, although his Parliamentary career was thus brief, his public services were great, and, had he died twenty years earlier, his disappearance would have created a far greater sensation than it actually did. The fact is, that he had outlived his reputation; a new generation had grown up "who knew not Joseph." He worked indefatigably at the task of placing the financial condition of the country on a more satisfactory basis. He was the real author of Sir Robert Peel's Bank Charter Act, the main principle of which was that the issue of notes should be safeguarded by a reserve of gold in the Bank coffers. The measure has been often violently abused, but there can be no doubt that it has acted as a controlling force during the many commercial panics of the last forty years. But its importance, both for good and ill, is now diminished by the greatly increased use of the cheque system, which in all large business transactions has practically superseded Bank notes and coin. But Lord Overstone did other things besides





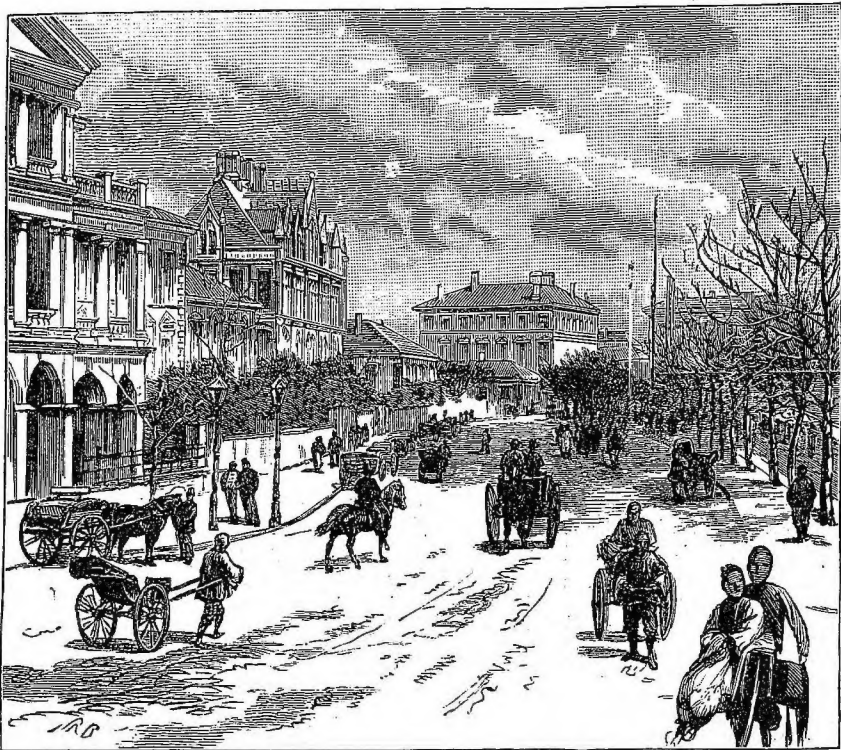
SIR CHARLES WILLIAM SIEMENS  
Electrician and Scientific Inventor  
Born April 4, 1823; Died November 19, 1883



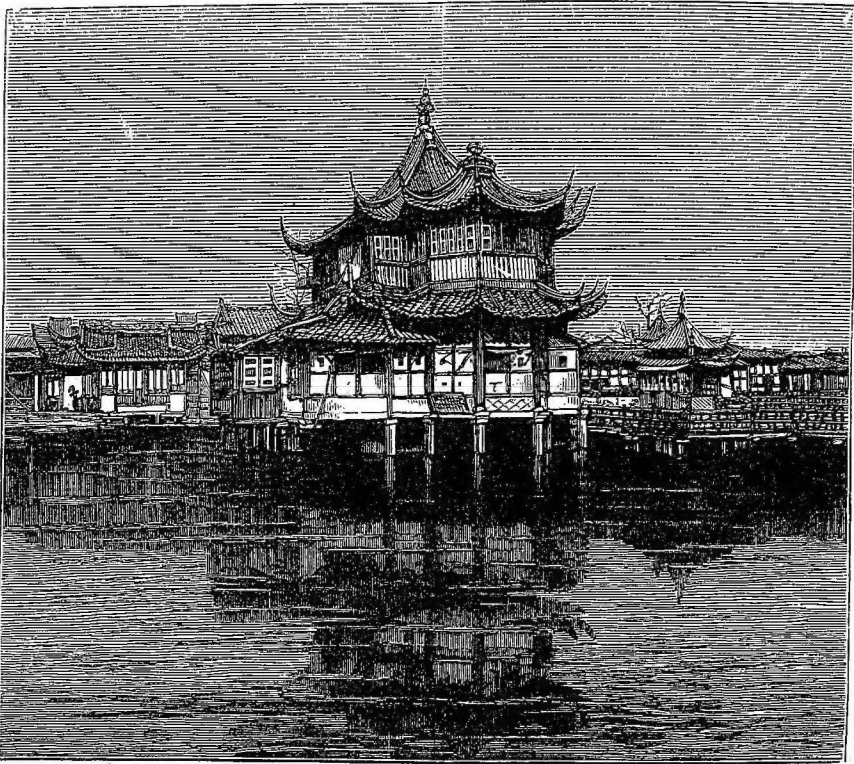
BARON OVERSTONE  
Born September 25, 1796; Died November 17, 1883



MR. EDGAR VINCENT  
Lately Appointed Financial Adviser to the Khedive of Egypt



THE BUND, ENGLISH SETTLEMENT, SHANGHAI, SHOWING THE ENGLISH CLUB



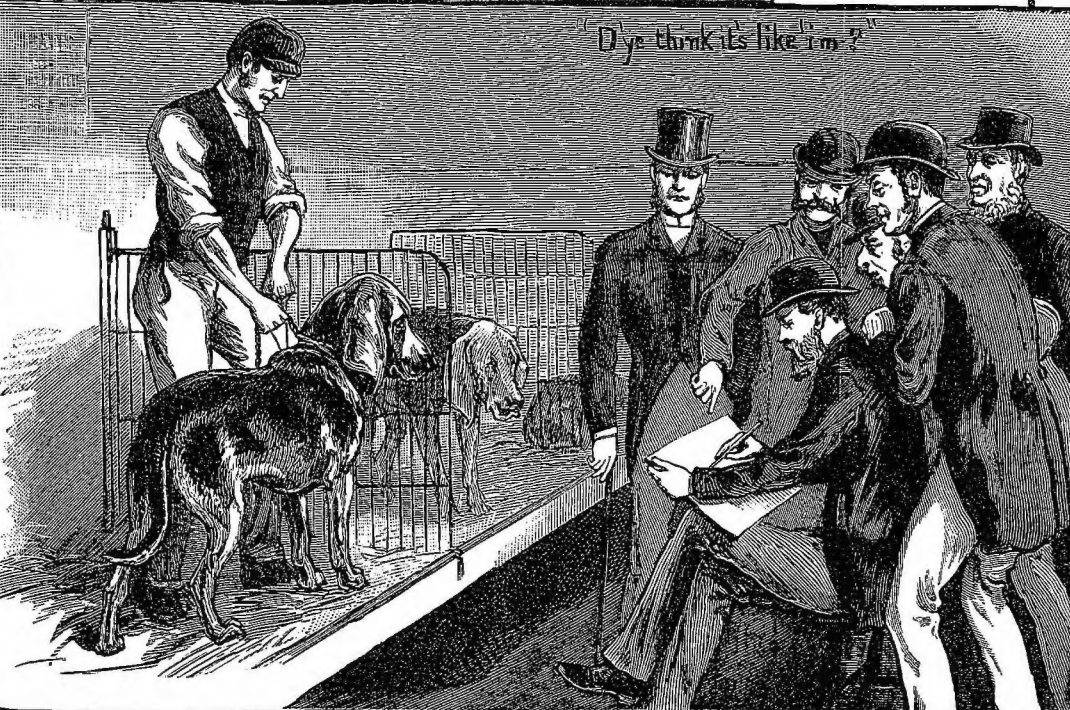
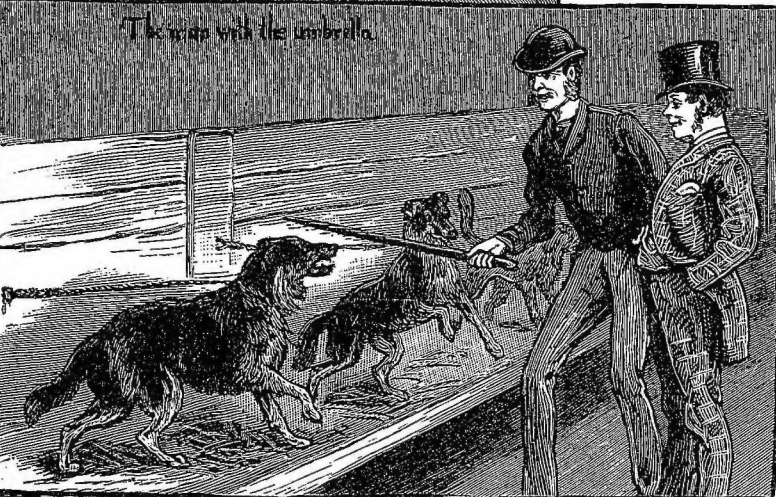
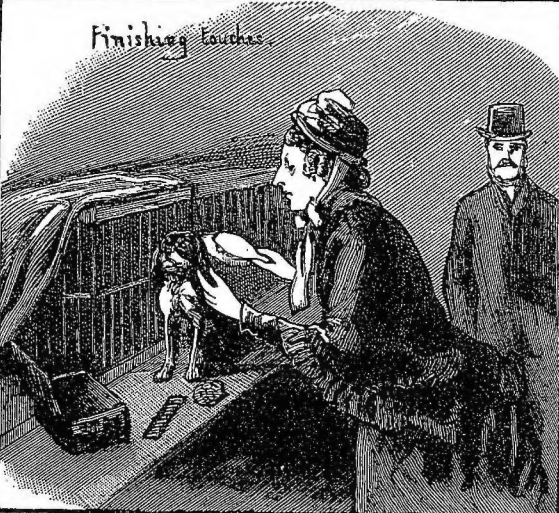
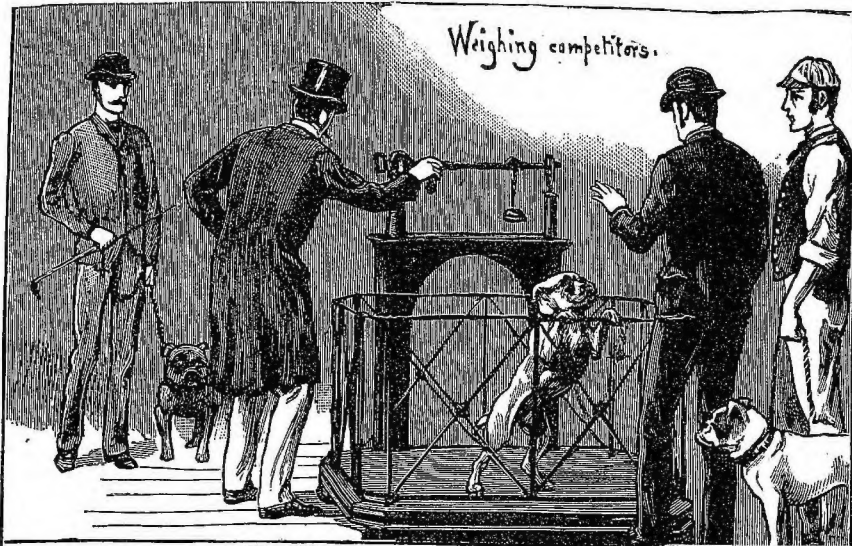
THE WU SOONG TING TEA-DRINKING HOUSE IN THE NATIVE CITY, SHANGHAI

THE IMPENDING WAR BETWEEN FRANCE AND CHINA



THE VISIT OF THE CROWN PRINCE OF GERMANY TO SPAIN—THE CROWN PRINCE SALUTING THE FLAG OF A SPANISH REGIMENT AT THE GRAND REVIEW ON THE PRADO, MADRID, NOVEMBER 24







THE trial which was concluded on Saturday last at the Central Criminal Court forms, it is to be fervently hoped, the last link in a lamentable chain of murder. First Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke were barbarously done to death in the Phoenix Park, Dublin; then several of their murderers were convicted on the testimony of one of the gang, who turned Queen's evidence, named James Carey; and then Carey, who with his family was being trans-



mitted to South Africa by the Government, as Ireland was too hot to hold him, was shot to death by Patrick, otherwise Michael, O'Donnell on the 29th July last. It is remarkable that the Crown adduced no evidence to show that O'Donnell was following Carey like a sleuth-hound; on the contrary, according to the testimony of a witness, it was only through the accidental display of a picture that O'Donnell recognised that his fellow-passenger Power was really Carey. However this may be, the jury declined to accept Mr. Russell's cleverly-urged plea that Carey was shot in self-defence during a sudden quarrel; they found O'Donnell guilty of murder, and he was sentenced to death. We cannot understand Mr. Justice Denman's extraordinary outburst against Carey. As the man is dead, and gone to his final account, surely his memory might have been spared this string of abusive epithets, which will make the malcontent Irish more than ever inclined to justify O'Donnell for his "removal" of "that dreadfully wicked man." The violent language and defiant behaviour of O'Donnell after sentence had been pronounced makes the impartial reader very sceptical about Mr. Russell's suggestion that "he was going peacefully in the *Kinfaul Castle*, harbouring no thought of James Carey." Let us hope that after this terrible example Irishmen will take Cardinal McCabe's advice, and shun secret societies, which may at any moment convert a well-conducted man into a murderer.

THEATRICALS ON BOARD A TRAINING SHIP

ALL work and no play makes Jack Tar a dull boy, and therefore such entertainments as that which is here represented are encouraged by sensible officers. The performances may take place, according to weather and other circumstances, in any part of the vessel, the sacred quarter deck excepted. Many of the boys on board the training ships are rustics pure and simple, some of them are literally from the plough, and therefore dialect songs, such as the "Jolly Waggoner," &c., are always received with high appreciation. In the scene here represented there appears to be a satisfactory termination to a somewhat chequered rustic courtship. The reader must imagine some hundreds of chorus-shouting boys in the rear of the officers and guests.

"THIRLBY HALL"

A NEW STORY by W. E. Norris, illustrated by W. Small, is continued on page 573.

CALCUTTA AND THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

A FEW years hence, if we go on at this rate, it will be a distinction for any great city to be able to say: "I have never had an International Exhibition." It does not, however, seem likely that any such city will be found. They all do it. Thirty years ago, when John Company's Raj was still in full force, and when the terrible Sepoy Mutiny was still in the womb of time, people would have stared if told that ere long the "City of Palaces" would emulate the feat achieved by Sir Joseph Paxton and his comrades in Hyde Park in 1851. In those days the European trading element in India was almost entirely confined to wholesale merchants; railways, too, were in embryo; and, if an Exhibition had been opened, there would have been but a meagre throng of spectators. Transit to India is both cheaper and swifter than it then was, and not a few people, blessed with money and leisure, will probably make the Calcutta Exhibition the excuse for a trip to the East. The climate from November to February (if one avoids too much exposure to the sun) is delightful, one fine day succeeds another, and in Northern India the nights are often sharply cold. Then Calcutta, as our pictures will show, is a city eminently worth seeing; the Chowringhee quarter is eminently a city of palaces, albeit the dampness of the climate is wont to give the buildings rather a mildewy appearance; and the Esplanade or Maidan is one of the finest city pleasure grounds in the world. Fancy Hyde Park and all the palatial buildings of the West moved down to Wapping, with a river three times as wide as the Thames, and filled with shipping, for one of its boundaries, and a clear, smokeless, blue sky overhead.

The Exhibition was opened on the 4th inst. by Lord Ripon, the Viceroy. The weather was gloomy and wet, a rare phenomenon in December in Bengal. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and a large number of native princes were present, but there was an almost entire absence of the leading citizens of Calcutta. The Ilbert Bill has made Lord Ripon very unpopular among the Europeans of India. His opening address was applauded. The Queen telegraphed her best wishes. At the end of the ceremony some mischievous person cut off the electric light, leaving the assemblage in total darkness.



A PEERAGE, it is said, has been offered to Mr. Tennyson, who, it is understood, has more than once refused a baronetcy. It is the first time that purely literary distinction has been honoured by such an offer. The late Lords Lytton and Macaulay, and the present Lord Houghton, had political as well as intellectual claims to it.

ON THE PLEA OF DEFECTIVE EYESIGHT, Mr. Goschen is reported to have declined to become a candidate for the Speakership. To "catch the Speaker's eye" is in a general way a necessary preliminary to addressing the House of Commons, and this might be a difficult operation with a short-sighted Speaker in the chair. Mr. Arthur Peel, the youngest son of the statesman, is spoken of as the probable Ministerial candidate. He has been Patronage Secretary to the Treasury, and Under Secretary of State for the Home Department.

SEVERAL MEMBERS of the Ministry have contributed to the political oratory of the week. At Accrington Lord Hartington seemed anxious to mitigate the impression produced by his remarks at Manchester on Parliamentary reform. He did not think there were insuperable difficulties to agreement among Liberals on the question; and, vindicating the Whig position, he said that while some people blamed him for throwing obstacles in the way of a settlement, his opponents would accuse him of succumbing to the Radicals by assenting to a New Reform Bill, which assimilated the County and Borough Franchise.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN at Wolverhampton touched lightly on the alleged disagreement in the Cabinet on the question of Parliamentary reform, referred only indirectly to Lord Hartington's hints of the difficulties to be overcome in settling it, spoke somewhat of the unfairness of the present electoral system in favour of Ireland, and argued strongly in favour of redistribution, while contending that it had no real connection with what was indispensable—a simple Franchise Bill.—Mr. Trevelyan at Kelso dwelt on the electoral claims of rural Borderers in his advocacy of Household Suffrage for counties, insisted that this should be purely one of occupancy, and gave as one of his reasons for wishing to postpone redistribution until the franchise is extended, that redistribution before extension would possibly have for its basis in the apportionment of seats the number of the present electors instead of those of the greatly enlarged constituencies of the future.—At Pontefract the Chancellor of the Exchequer reported a hopeful increase in the number of recruits, took credit for the National Debt Act, for the

Cheap Trains Act, as enabling working men to procure suitable house accommodation in the suburbs, and for keeping down taxation, while there had been great additions to the expenditure on the Services and on education. He threw no light on the details of the coming Reform Bill.

ADDRESSING A CHELSEA CLUB, Sir Charles Dilke indicated the probable recommendations of the Royal Commission which, under the presidency of Lord Derby, has been inquiring into the affairs of the City Companies. The "bad Companies" should not be allowed to alienate their property, and to prevent this a Suspensory Bill might be introduced next Session, and a Commission be appointed to deal with the funds of the City Guilds in the interests of the whole metropolitan community.

REPLYING to a working-class deputation, which asked him to exert his influence for the improvement of the housing of the London poor, Lord Salisbury replied somewhat guardedly. The evil was to be attacked not in one, but in many ways. More information was required as to how the people could be taken into the country. He deprecated legislation hostile to ground landlords, who, in the congested districts, were not wealthy men, but shopkeepers and small freeholders.

THE MARQUIS OF LORNE presided at the annual banquet of the Scottish Corporation on St. Andrew's Day, and spoke appropriately of the number and success of Scottish settlers in Canada. On Tuesday he delivered at Birmingham an interesting and instructive address on "Canada and its Products," and strongly recommended the Dominion to emigrants of both sexes who can and will work with their hands.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY, after delivering the usual address at the annual meeting of the Royal Society, was re-elected President. In person Sir William Thomson received the Copley Medal, and Dr. Hirst and Professor Burdon Sanderson the Royal.

UNDER ROYAL PATRONAGE, and with the Duke of Buckingham President of the Executive Committee of its promoters, an International Sanitary Exhibition is to be held next year at South Kensington. The exhibits are to include clothing, food, models of dwellings, and school-rooms, with their fittings and sanitary appliances. At the instance of the Prince of Wales the Corporation of London has promised its co-operation. Many of the City Guilds will probably contribute. Among civic projects to relieve the seeming dryness of a Sanitary Exhibition is one for the reproduction of sections of old London—Cheapside, for instance—under their mediæval aspects.

THE IRISH EXECUTIVE having prohibited by proclamation a meeting of any kind at Newry on Sunday, the Nationalists gave up their demonstration, and the peace of the town was little disturbed.—The loyalist magistrates of Ulster continue to express sympathy with Lord Rossmore. Several meetings are contemplated in Ulster to protest against his removal from the Commission of the Peace.

ON SUNDAY at Wexford Major Whittle, a coadjutor of Messrs. Moody and Sankey, was to have held an evangelistic service in the theatre, but abandoned the intention in consequence of the threatening attitude of the populace. Nevertheless, a Roman Catholic mob made its way into the theatre, burnt the Bibles and Prayer-Books, and then proceeded to break the windows of the Protestant church, of the Methodist chapel, and of the houses of Protestant inhabitants, several of whom were assaulted in the course of the night. Next day the rioting was continued, but the police having been reinforced Major Whittle succeeded in holding a meeting.—Only 240 out of 900 tenants had last week accepted Lord Devon's invitation to them to purchase their holdings, and it was one of his conditions of sale that one-half of them should signify in writing their acceptance of his terms.—Of 39,435 $\frac{1}{2}$  collected for the Parnell Fund only 2,744 $\frac{1}{2}$  has been contributed by Ulster against upwards of 21,000 $\frac{1}{2}$  in Munster and Leinster together.

ANOTHER ROMAN VILLA has been found in Berkshire, the present find having been excavated in an arable field at Frilford, near Abingdon. The Villa consists of eight or ten rooms, the largest being about sixteen feet square, and in one corner is a curious hypocaust, or subterranean stove for heating the building, but with twelve stone piers, instead, as usual, of hollow tiles.

THERE will probably not be the strike which was apprehended of the coal miners in the North, welcome news at this season of the year. But there is too much reason to fear that the threatened strike of 80,000 cotton-weavers in North and North-East Lancashire will not now be averted.

TO THE OBITUARY OF THE WEEK belongs the death, in his sixty-sixth year, of Lord Howard of Glossop, father of the Marchioness of Bute, and uncle to the present Duke of Norfolk; of Mr. Thomas Knowles, M.P. for Wigan, in his sixtieth year; of Mr. Alderman Finnis, in his eighty-third year, "father of the Corporation of London," who when Lord Mayor in 1856-7 instituted the Mansion House Relief Fund for the sufferers by the Indian Mutiny, of which his brother, Captain Finnis, was one of the earliest victims; of Mr. Joseph Mitchell, in his eighty-first year, a pupil of Telford, and the engineer of the Highland Railway system; of Mr. Richard Haworth, in his sixty-fourth year, a self-made man, whose cotton-mills, not only from their extent and the perfection of their machinery, but from the provision made in them for the well-being of the operatives, have long been among the industrial "lions" of Manchester; and of, in his eighty-fourth year, the Hon. and Rev. E. T. Keppel, brother of the Earl of Albemarle, and for fifty years Rector of Quidenham.

CHRISTMAS APPEALS.—Among the many calls for charity at this season, the London Fever Hospital, Liverpool Road, N., puts forward a pressing claim for assistance. Owing to the late outbreak of typhoid fever in Northern London, the expenses of the Hospital have been unusually heavy, some 1,000 persons of all classes, except paupers, having been treated during the year; while, in the discharge of their duty, one medical officer and nine nurses caught fever, and two nurses contracted diphtheria. Although the admission fee is only 3s., the average cost of each patient is over 10s., and the annual income is quite inadequate to the expenditure. Funds are urgently needed to meet both the working expenses and the much required repairs and additions to the building; and subscriptions may be sent to the Secretary, Mr. E. Burn Callander, at the Hospital.—An urgent plea also comes from St. Agnes' Hospital for the Fallen, which rarely appeals to the public. The admission is free, and the doctors give their attendance gratuitously. Subscriptions will be received by the Secretary, G. Thurlow, Esq., at the Hospital, 3, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square, W.—Amongst appeals for Christmas dinners, "Hungry East London" earnestly begs for help. Thus the Harley Street Congregational Chapel, Bow, last year gave 2,000 persons Christmas fare, and is anxious to do more this season, as distress is very rife. One aged couple a short time ago had tasted no meat since the Christmas dinner of 1882. Funds to be sent to the Minister, Rev. W. Evans Humdall, 16, Cottage Grove, Bow Road, E.—The East London Mission, St. George's-in-the-East, wants to give Christmas dinners to destitute children, and New Year's suppers to the poorest adults in the wretched districts of Ratcliffe, St. George's, and Shadwell, the Mission having provided free meals for several winters past at the Hall. The Mission propose to open a Coffee Palace and Reading Room in Ratcliffe Highway, as well as another Mission Hall near the Tower when funds permit, and assistance is earnestly asked for.—contributions to be sent to Mr. Hopkins, Hon. Superintendent, at the Hall, 263, Castle Street, St. George's, E.



THE NEW ALICE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AT DARMSTADT is now finished, and will be opened by the Grand Duke of Hesse to-day (Saturday). It was originally founded by the Princess Alice.

THE REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE AT JERUSALEM has been decided on by a party of thirteen enthusiastic Transatlantic believers, who go to the East with the firm intention of labouring with their hands and money to raise again the building in all its splendour.

THE COMET discovered early in September, and which is stated to be the same as that of 1812, will probably be visible to the naked eye about December 13th, while its maximum brightness will not be reached till the middle of January. It can now be seen with a telescope of a three-inch aperture, and has greatly altered in appearance since first remarked.

AN ARTIFICIAL ISLAND IN LAKE MICHIGAN has been proposed as a residence for wealthy Chicagoites who may wish to see and be near the city without actually living there. The promoters suggest that a large enclosure should be made in the Lake, with stone walls rising to a safe distance above the level of the waters, and that all the city rubbish should be shot there until sufficient ground shall have been made for a new town.

"HOLLAND-KRAKATAU."—For the benefit of the sufferers by the volcanic eruption in Java, there has been published at the Hague, by Mr. John Ykema, under the patronage of H.R.H. the Prince of Orange, an illustrated miscellany bearing the above title. It is about the same size as a weekly number of the *Graphic*, and the pictures and letter-press do great credit to our cousins across the North Sea.

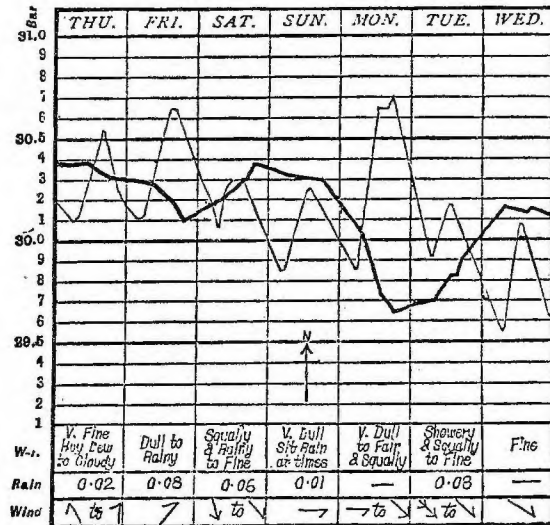
THE SOCIETY OF FRENCH ARTISTS, which now manages the annual Salon, has succeeded in getting on so well without Government support that the funds show a balance of over 13,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ . It is now proposed that the annual profits should be utilised in three ways—one-fifth to be distributed for the relief of poor artists and their families, a considerable sum to be set aside for pensions, and the remainder to be kept for such expenses as the defence of Art rights, &c.

THE CURIOUS ORIGIN of a new religious movement in Russia has just been traced by the provincial police. Last year a priest named Seraphin founded a sect whose members on joining were obliged to sacrifice their hair as a sign of obedience to their pastor. But the locks of the faithful were not wasted. On the contrary, the priest secretly sent a rich hair-harvest to his brother, who is a fashionable hair-dresser in St. Petersburg, and so much hair was exported thence to France and England that the police got wind of the affair. Now the Seraphinovski sect is dispersed, and the ingenious pastor is in prison for fraud.

THE FAÇADE OF THE DUOMO AT FLORENCE is at last nearly finished, and was unveiled with great ceremony on Tuesday. Only the pinnacle remains incomplete until the subscribers have decided its definitive form. Nearly six hundred years ago the Duomo was first begun, and the present new façade, due to public subscriptions, was commenced in 1875, when Victor Emmanuel laid the first stone. The architect, Commendatore de Fabris, has not lived to see the completion of his design. Many important restorations have also been made in the interior of the cathedral, part of the marble pavement having been relaid.

LONDON MORTALITY further decreased last week, and 1,655 deaths were registered, against 1,670 during the previous seven days, a fall of 15, being 134 below the average, and at the rate of 21·8 per 1,000. There were 5 deaths from small-pox (a rise of 4), 38 from measles (a decline of 11), 59 from scarlet fever (an increase of 18), 28 from diphtheria (a rise of 7), 29 from whooping-cough, 33 from enteric fever (an increase of 1), 9 from diarrhoea and dysentery (a decline of 8), and none from typhus or from simple cholera. Deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs numbered 453, a decline of 40, and 56 below the average. Different forms of violence caused 52 deaths; 49 were the result of accident or negligence, including 27 from fractures and contusions, 5 from burns and scalds, 3 from drowning, and 6 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. Three cases of suicide were registered. There were 2,423 births registered, against 2,482 during the previous week, being 214 below the average. The mean temperature of the air was 46·3 deg., and 5·3 deg. above the average in the corresponding week of twenty years.

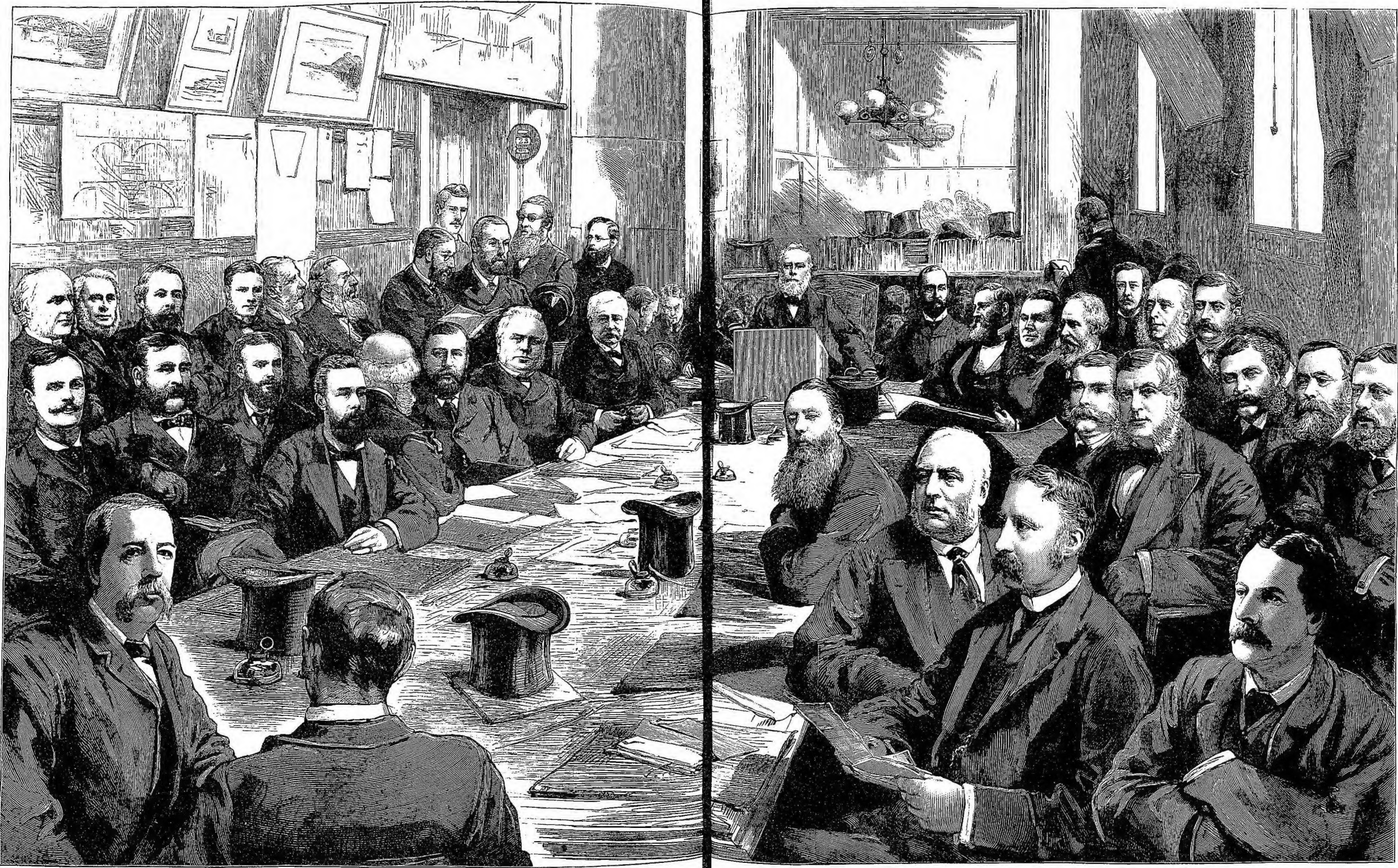
WEATHER CHART FOR THE WEEK  
FROM NOV. 29 TO DEC. 5 (INCLUSIVE).



EXPLANATION.—The thick line shows the variations in the height of the barometer during the past week ending Wednesday midnight. The fine line shows the shade temperature for the same interval, and gives the maximum and minimum readings for each day, with the (approximate) time at which they occurred. The information is furnished to us by the Meteorological Office.

REMARKS.—During the past week the weather has been rainy and warm to fine and cold, with some rough winds towards the close of the time. The gorgeous effects from the rising and setting of the sun recently noticed, have been repeated the last few days. On the first day of the period (Thursday, 29th ult.), the barometer was high, and fine weather was experienced, clouds working up later. Friday (30th ult.) found the mercury falling owing to a small disturbance which passed across southern England, and dull, rainy conditions prevailed. As this depression moved away eastwards finer weather, with squally winds of some strength, prevailed during Saturday (1st inst.). Between Sunday afternoon (2nd inst.) and Monday evening (3rd inst.) the barometer fell decidedly, and rather rough weather existed during this time. Tuesday's (4th inst.) chart showed that a smart recovery in pressure took place, and fine, dry, though very cold and keen, weather was experienced. The barometer continued to rise on Wednesday (5th inst.), and moderately fine conditions, with temperature rather low, prevailed. Several snow-showers fell on Thursday (6th inst.). The barometer was highest (30.40 inches) on Thursday (29th ult.); lowest (29.03 inches) on Monday (3rd inst.); range, 0.77 inch. Temperature was highest (54°) on Monday (2nd inst.); lowest (31°) on Wednesday (5th inst.); range, 23°. Rain fell on five days. Total amount, 0.22 inch. Greatest fall on any one day, 0.08 inch, on Friday (30th ult.).





THE NEW SUEZ CANAL AGREEMENT—CONFERENCE BETWEEN M. DE LESSEPS AND THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A PORTRAIT-GROUP. SP. BLOCK, PAGE 562





THE Message of the President of the UNITED STATES, though containing little of note in itself, is of more importance than usual this session. The Presidential election takes place next year, and the Message may be looked upon as the Republican profession of faith in anticipation of that event. President Arthur begins, according to custom, by dealing with foreign affairs. He refers to the abrogation of the Fisheries Clause of the Treaty of Washington, and suggests a Commission to consider the rights of the United States in the matter, and the best means "for opening up to American citizens under proper conditions the waters and sealing grounds of British and Russian North America." Another Anglo-American question is the deportation to the United States from Great Britain of "persons unable to gain a living," and who consequently become a burden to the United States. The paupers, the President states, have been sent back, but the action of the British Government in applying measures for relief has proved ineffectual, and as needy emigrants continued to arrive *ad* Canada, the revision of the legislation was deemed advisable. After announcing that the correspondence with the British Government respecting the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty and the Panama Canal had been further continued, General Arthur treated of minor difficulties with other countries, and then passed on to the great theme of the Message—finance.

He began with announcing the broad fact that during the last nine months of the present financial year the Estimates showed a surplus of 7,800,000, and that the receipts for the financial year ending 1885, at the present rate, show a surplus of 12,000,000. Thus the Three per Cent. Bonds might all be redeemed, but as the Four and a-Half per Cent. cannot be redeemed for four years, the money would have to lie idle in the Treasury for some time. Despite this fact, however, and that the redemption of the Three per Cents. would seriously inconvenience the banks, which are compelled to hold stock for the amount to which they issue notes, the President does not recommend "the adoption of a measure largely reducing the revenues." He suggests that until the effect of the reductions made last year should be ascertained, a portion of the surplus should be devoted to rehabilitating the Navy and providing for coast defence. As to the banks, they might be provided for by legislation. The trade dollar should also be converted into bullion. Amongst other homotopics the evergreen Mormon question, regarding which President Arthur suggests another and more stringent law, as he declares that "Polygamy is so strongly entrenched in Utah that only the strongest Constitution and the introduction of a legislative measure can profitably attack it."

The Tonquin difficulty still remains the chief political topic in FRANCE, but a somewhat more hopeful aspect is being assumed in the relations with China. The tone of the report of the Credit Committee is exceedingly conciliatory. The Committee declare that the object of the Expedition is unaltered from that first announced—that no total or partial conquest of Tonquin is intended, but merely the occupation of some positions which would prevent exactions and piracy, and the enforcement of the Treaty of 1874. At the same time, it admits that the expedition had been undertaken without due regard to the military difficulties, and that if an adequate force had been at first sent out the present crisis would have been avoided. The debate—which M. Clemenceau unsuccessfully endeavoured to force on the Cabinet last week—was fixed for Friday. Meanwhile, considerable anxiety has been aroused by the report of Lord Hartington's speech at Accrington; and the announcement that Germany had asked the great Powers to take measures for the protection of Europeans in China, was met with a semi-official statement that the United States, Russia, and France participate in this understanding. This entails the formation of a combined international flotilla of gunboats, to be stationed in the Canton River, and the command of which would be given to the Power having the largest naval force in Chinese waters—at present France. On Wednesday the long-expected Yellow Book was published. This gives the correspondence covering a period of ten years, including M. Jules Ferry's last letter to the Marquis Tseng of November 30, in which he declines the Chinese proposal for a neutral line south of Sontay, and holds to the original intent of occupying Sontay and Bacninh.

Home French politics are decidedly dull, the Chamber having been busily discussing and voting the various items of the Budget, the only incident worthy of note being the raising of the amount fixed for the redemption of the debt from 2,500,000 to 4,000,000. In Paris the proposed Convention between the Suez Canal Company and the British shipowners has naturally excited much comment. Some of the shareholders are very angry, and call M. de Lesseps hard names—amongst which "traitor" and "rascal" are to be distinguished; but the opinion of the general public—to judge from the moderate journals—is favourable. Some discontented spirit, however, appears to have vented his wrath by sending M. de Lesseps and M. de Couvreur boxes containing explosives which were to be ignited on raising the lid. Fortunately the first, opened by M. Couvreur, failed to explode, and the others were at once handed over to the police. Another controversy has raged round the production of Daudet's *Rois en Exil* at the Vaudeville. The piece itself, founded on the author's well known book, is exceedingly poor and wearisome, but still like *Rabagas* it forms a mighty battlefield for Monarchists and Radicals, the former of whom resent the gross caricatures of monarchical traditions which form the chief features of the play. The ultra-Radicals, who have been keeping quiet of late, have come to the fore with a proposed meeting before the Bourse for yesterday (Friday), which, however, was prohibited by the police.

From EGYPT there is little further news respecting the Soudan. The news of the disaster to Hicks Pasha is gradually being confirmed. According to one account Mr. Vizetelly and some fifty prisoners are alive at Obeid, while a wounded officer—presumably Baron von Seckendorff—has also survived. A Copt merchant, who says that he was present at the battle, states that he saw Aladeen Pasha killed at the opening of the battle, and that Hicks Pasha was killed by a lance on the third day, when the last cartridge had been fired and the men had been without water for three days. Colonel Coetlogon is energetically organising the defence of Khartoum. The various garrisons dispersed about the more southern part of the Soudan have been ordered to be concentrated at Senaar. At Cairo preparations are going on for despatching strong reinforcements, and a part of Baker Pasha's force have left Cairo for Suakim. Zebehr Pasha, the notorious slave-dealing leader of Darfour, has been appointed to the command of the Bedouins in the new Expedition.

In TURKEY the news of the Mahdi's victory has been received with a mixed feeling of gratification and alarm—of gratification that the infidel has at last been defeated by the True Believer—of alarm on account of the Mahdi's aspiration to the Caliphate, which, of course, will reduce the Sultan to a mere nonentity from the Mussulman point of view. Thus the question of requesting England to permit Turkish troops to take the field against the Mahdi has been raised, while it is probable that the Ulema of Mecca will brand the Mahdi as a false prophet—a step adopted by the El Azhar University at Cairo some months since.

The cordiality between GERMANY and SPAIN has been enhanced by a birthday letter from the Emperor to King Alfonso, in which he thanks the King for receiving his son in the place of himself, and declaring that the news from Madrid proves how great "is the affectionate sympathy felt by your Majesty for the Crown Prince, thus reciprocating my friendship for your Majesty, which will endure while my life lasts." The festivities at Madrid have continued throughout the week, and a splendid reception was given to the Prince on Sunday at the Town Hall. The Prince was to leave yesterday (Friday), and would return by Genoa, embarking from Barcelona, visiting Seville, Granada, and Cordova on his way. To return for a moment to Germany, the inquiry has been resumed into the loss of the *Cimbria* in the collision with the *Sultan*, and the Imperial Commissioner has made the important statement that he thought the accident was due to a mistake in steering the vessel on board the *Cimbria*. Judgment is to be given in a fortnight.

In INDIA the Calcutta Exhibition was opened with all due ceremony on Tuesday. The ceremony is described elsewhere. Exhibition matters apart the chief topic has been the studied coldness of Lord Ripon's reception by the Europeans at Calcutta. The non-official element in the Volunteer escort was almost entirely absent. The natives had gaily decorated the streets on the route, and turned out in crowds to salute their champion, but on the steps of Government House, where the leading members of the European community were wont to receive the Viceroy, there were only two or three non-official Europeans, while outside the gate the Viceroy was hissed by a number of Europeans who had assembled there. At the St. Andrew's dinner also the health of the Viceroy was proposed with a speech, and was received with marked coldness, while Mr. Keswick, in proposing "The Land We Live In," vigorously denounced the Viceroy's policy amid the ringing cheers of his audience. The Duke of Connaught has now officially assumed his command at Meerut, but for the present is on leave at Calcutta.

In AUSTRALIA the Inter-Colonial Conference met on Wednesday at Sydney, and agreed on resolutions that the further acquisition by Foreign Powers of dominion in the Pacific would be detrimental to the safety of the British Australian colonies, that New Guinea and the adjacent islands should be incorporated into the British Empire, that the British Government should take an opportunity to negotiate with France for the acquisition of the New Hebrides, and that the Governments represented would undertake to recommend to their several Legislatures that they should bear a proportionate expense of such acquisitions. Joined to these resolutions was a strong protest against France, and indeed any European country, establishing penal colonies in the Pacific, and finally, the Convention voted that these resolutions should be sent to the Colonial Secretary for Her Majesty's consideration.

OF MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS we hear from SWITZERLAND that the Canton of Schaffhausen has abolished compulsory vaccination. Tourists, take warning.—In AUSTRIA the winter session of the Reichsrath was opened in the New Chamber of Deputies. On Tuesday Finance was the first topic, and the usual deficit was officially announced.—In RUSSIA a new Six per Cent. loan has been announced for 16,000,000, at 98. It appears to be highly successful.—From PERSIA we hear of a threefold raid of Turcomans, of which the most important body number 2,000, and is commanded by the Mussulman fanatic Khat Seyd Hassan, who is preaching a holy war against Russia.—From SOUTH AFRICA the Pitso of Basutos, convened by the British Government, have accepted the terms laid down for the retransfer of the Imperial Government. Masupha and Joel Molappo were absent. The former was to be allowed to November 30th to make his decision. The terms are as before, 10s. hut tax, obedience to the Resident, and general assent of the people. Nothing has yet been decided about Cetewayo, and Mr. Osborne has called a meeting of chiefs and headmen in the Reserve, including John Dunn, to ascertain their opinions.—On the WEST COAST OF AFRICA King Coffee Calcalli, Mensah, and the Queen Mother have been taken prisoners by Quacoe Duah.



THE QUEEN and Princess Beatrice go to Osborne for Christmas about December 18th. On Sunday morning Her Majesty and the Royal Family attended Divine Service in the Private Chapel, where the Dean of Windsor officiated. Next week there will be the usual family gathering at Windsor for the anniversary services on Friday in memory of the Prince Consort and Princess Alice.—Messrs. Clayton and Bell have been appointed glass-painters to the Queen.

The Princess of Wales's thirty-ninth birthday was celebrated with great festivities at Sandringham on Saturday. A ball was given to the tenantry of West Norfolk on the previous evening, and on Saturday morning a lawn meet of the West Norfolk Hounds was held at Sandringham, the Prince and Princess giving a hunt breakfast to all comers. In the afternoon the women and children on the estate had their annual tea in the new ball-room, the Prince and Princess being present with their family and the Duke of Cambridge. On Sunday the Royal party attended Divine Service at St. Mary Magdalene's, where the Bishop of Bath and Wells preached, and in the afternoon they were present at the christening of the infant daughter of the Rev. F. Hervey, Domestic Chaplain to the Prince and Princess, the Princess of Wales standing sponsor. The Duke of Cambridge and the other guests left on Monday, when the Prince of Wales also came up to town, and next morning attended a meeting of his Council, leaving afterwards on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Tyssen-Amherst, at Didlington Hall, Norfolk. On Wednesday he shot over the Buckenham coverts, and next day joined in a partridge drive. He was to return to town to-day (Saturday), where the Princess joins her husband on Monday.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh went to the Court Theatre on Saturday evening. On Monday the Duke went down to Portsmouth to assume command of the Channel Squadron, and hoisted his flag on board the *Minotaur*. He breakfasted with Admiral Hornby, and visited the Sailors' Home, of which he is President, returning to town on fourteen days' leave. He rejoins the *Minotaur* on the 17th inst., when he will sail for Vigo to meet the remainder of the Squadron and start on a four months' cruise.—The Duke and Duchess of Albany entertained the Crown Prince of Portugal at Claremont at the end of last week, and on the Prince's return to town the Duke breakfasted with him at his hotel on Sunday morning. The Duke and Duchess are now staying with Lord and Lady Brooke at Easton Lodge.—Prince and Princess Christian spent Saturday to Tuesday with Viscount Newport at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, and on Monday visited the Birmingham Cattle and Dog Shows, receiving congratulatory addresses.

The Crown Prince of Portugal has gone to Liverpool on a tour to the chief manufacturing centres in the Midlands and the North, whence he will go to Scotland.—Another engagement is reported in the Royal Family, this time between the Grand Duke Sergius of Russia, third brother of the Czar, and Princess Elizabeth, second daughter of the Grand Duke of Hesse and the late Princess Alice, whose elder sister marries Prince Louis of Battenberg in the spring. The Princess is nineteen and the Grand Duke twenty-six years of age.



AT A MEETING OF THE TAIT MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, in the Library of Canterbury Cathedral, the sum received being very small, a sub-Committee was appointed to collect subscriptions. A reredos in stone and sedilia are to be placed in the Cathedral, and contributions are to be invited from America and the Colonies.

IN SUCCESSION TO THE LATE BISHOP STEERE, the Rev. C. A. Smythies was on Sunday, in St. Paul's, consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Bishopric of the Church of England in Central Africa.

DR. BARRY will be consecrated Bishop of Sydney in Westminster Abbey on New Year's Day, when by appointment of the Archbishop of Canterbury Dr. Westcott, Regius Professor of Divinity at Cambridge, will preach the sermon. A public farewell, on his departure from England, is to be taken of Dr. Barry at Worcester, where he was a Canon of the Cathedral. On Sunday Dr. Barry preached in Westminster Abbey in aid of the Bishopric of Southwell Endowment Fund, which requires 1,400, to be complete for its purpose. He said that the creation within a few years of five new Bishoprics proved how far Churchmen were from losing confidence in the mission and future of the Church, and how little they listened to those loud threats of attack and spoliation which were heard on every side.

THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER has called attention in a Pastoral to the cry of outcast London, and expressed fear that, unless the subject is kept vigilantly before the public, it will soon fade out of sight. As regards Church extension in South London, the Bishop estimates that of the 50,000, required 42,123, have been subscribed.

THE BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL was present on Saturday at the laying of the foundation-stone of a Scandinavian church in that city, chiefly for the use of the numerous Scandinavian seamen—Swedes, Norwegians, and Danes—who stay in Liverpool while their vessels are in port. In a brief speech, Dr. Ryle testified his deep respect for the Swedish and Norwegian Churches.

SOME EXCITEMENT has been caused in Oxford through the reported nomination by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Jowett, of Mr. R. A. Horton, of New College, a Nonconformist Fellow, to be an Examiner in Faith and Religion. Mr. Horton is said to be minister of an Independent chapel in London, and to be in the habit of preaching in Nonconformist chapels in Oxford.

BARON POLLOCK presided at the annual winter supper given to the discharged criminals of London in connection with the St. Giles's Mission. Baron Pollock asked those who had not accepted in full the offer of the Mission to take hope and courage—hope that they might retrieve the past, and courage to listen to the "still small voice" within them.

THE BEHAVIOUR of some of the many who flock to see fashionable marriages solemnised in St. George's, Hanover Square, has induced the Rector and Churchwardens to issue a notice—copies of which are distributed to the congregation on these occasions—requesting them not to talk either before, or during, or after the Marriage Service, and to behave as in the House of God.

THE WESLEYANS propose to raise a sum of 50,000, to provide additional chapels and mission-rooms in the poorest parts of London. Some very handsome subscriptions, among them one of 10,000, and another of 5,000, have been already promised.

ACCORDING TO THE "CLERGYMAN'S ALMANACK" for 1884, the total number of candidates confirmed in England during 1882 was 181,625, of whom 73,679 were males and 107,946 females. Of these the largest proportion was contributed by the Diocese of London; Lichfield, Manchester, and Rochester following in the order given.



CRYSTAL PALACE.—The first performance of the *Grande Messe des Morts* of Berlioz, at the *au revoir* concert, just previous to Mr. Manns' periodical leave-taking for Glasgow, was duly recorded at the time. The second performance of this colossal choral work, which has just taken place, in every respect showed an improvement on its precursor. The difficulties that oppose a tolerable all-round execution are chiefly, if not wholly, traceable to the enormous demands that Berlioz himself has put in the way of its representatives, instrumental and choral. That the part allotted to Mr. Manns and his orchestra was, as before, done to a nicety, will be taken for granted—higher praise than which could only be insisted on by immoderate zealots. In the delivery of the choral passages the great improvement was unanimously admitted, and praised accordingly. It should be added, however, that no inconsiderable share in this belonged to the contingent of vocalists from our Royal Academy of Music, as especially manifested in the unaccompanied semi-chorus, "Quærens me sedisti lassus" (built upon two subjects in the old ecclesiastical manner, and independently treated in the imitative style), together with other more or less delicate features. The incidental vocal sentences for tenor were carefully and intelligently given by Mr. Harper Kearton. To-day's concert comprises novelties in the shape of a selection from the music composed by Mr. Hubert Parry for the *Birds* of Aristophanes, and a serenade in G for orchestra, by Mr. C. Villiers Stanford, while the great French pianist, Madame Montigny-Rémaury, will play a "Beethoven Concerto."

POPULAR CONCERTS.—To the evident satisfaction of a large number of Mr. Chappell's audience, Herr Brahms seems to be coming again to the front, and the programme of Saturday's commenced with a remarkably fine performance of his first sextet for stringed instruments in B flat, No. 1, the piece which served first to introduce the now so greatly admired composer to the English public. Twenty years would appear to have robbed the sextet of none of its primitive freshness and spontaneity, and though it may not be strictly just to deny that here and there it sins on the side of diffuseness sometimes, though rarely that of over-elaboration, it remains, in its class, a masterpiece. It was welcomed as usual with the utmost cordiality, no little of which was naturally due to the merits of Madame Norman Néruda, Messrs. L. Ries, Holländer, Zerbini, Pezze, and Piatti. A repetition of the *Andante* with variations was demanded and complied with. M. de Pachmann, again the pianist, won universal recognition for his highly-finished rendering of Chopin's Sonata in B minor. It would be agreeable to give a more flattering account of the novelty introduced at the concert on Monday evening. This was a quartet in A flat for pianoforte and wind instruments from the pen of Mr. Charles Hubert Hastings Parry, who graduated as Mus. Bac. in 1867, and three years later as B.A. at Oxford. The ability of this gentleman, his proficiency as a contrapuntist, and his musical acquirements generally have for some years been widely acknowledged. But



he has got into a groove from which he will find it hard to emancipate himself. He is, in a large measure, sworn disciple of a school which has done more harm than good to the art he cultivates. Like some well-known imitators of Liszt, he accepts as basis certain *theses* absolutely antagonistic to truth. For example, the "metamorphosis of themes," advocated by Mr. Dannreuther in his critical estimate of Liszt's E flat concerto; his careful avoidance whenever he can manage it (which, by the way, is not invariably) of "full closes"; occasional disregard of the accepted canons of harmony; and last, not least, his endeavours to emulate the vain theories of "the tyranny of tone families" and "infinite melos," so arrogantly set forth and maintained by Richard Wagner, each and all we cannot but think, unless speedily abandoned, are likely to prove deleterious to his future professional career. On the other hand, Mr. Parry has plenty of time before him, is a man of serious mental tendency, and of such unquestionable talent that there exists no reason to believe that he should not return to legitimate art, and take, for example, a long dip into the works of the great masters, which will do him much more good. The quartet was repeatedly applauded by staunch adherents; but St. James's Hall—rare event—was more than half empty. The pianist was Miss Agnes Zimmermann, in conjunction with Madame Neruda, MM. Holländer and Piatti, who did all that was possible for the effect of the new work.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—Mr. William Carter has projected a series of five "National" performances at the great building in South Kensington, the first of which was given on the evening of St. Andrew's Day. The programme, in a "National" sense, was chiefly effective on account of the Scottish music, of which it offered, to the admirers of genuine melody, an abundant feast. Among the vocal contributors, all more or less well known, were Mesdame Lemmens-Sherrington and Antoinette Sterling, Miss Patti Winter, Messieurs Maas, Foli, and Barrington Foote; allied with whom were the members of Mr. Carter's much-praised choir. Each old favourite ditty was acknowledged by hearty applause, and "encores" were the rule rather than the exception. A new ballad, "The Child's Way to Heaven," composed for Madame Sterling by Mr. Carter himself, was marked out for special demonstration. The next concert will also be "Scottish," being held in honour of the anniversary of the poet Burns.



## THEATRES

ONE of the most noteworthy features of the recent remarkable revival of the public interest in the stage is the resuscitation of the long-defunct practice of "damning" a bad play. Not even the reversion in which Mr. Tennyson's genius is held could save him from the jibes and jeers of an Adelphi audience when his *Rank and Riches*, respectfully listened to at first, had been discovered to be tedious and uninteresting. These considerations perhaps may bring some little consolation to Mr. Henry Pettitt for the almost savage reception accorded to his new and original play, *The Spider's Web*, at the OLYMPIC Theatre on Saturday evening. The claim of Mr. Pettitt's piece to the epithet "original" may perhaps be excused on the ground that it is not directly taken from foreign sources; but its characters and incidents are of a very stagey type, and the method of the whole piece is hopelessly old-fashioned. The acting of the play was not very strong, though Mr. Anson did his best with the crafty, but certainly not very clever or cunning, lawyer; and Mr. Younge as the aspiring farmer brought the audience over once or twice to the verge of forgetting for a moment the absurdity of his proceedings; while Miss Alma Murray as the heroine, Miss Laura Linden as her lady friend and companion, and Mr. Philip Beck as the crafty suitor already referred to, were certainly guilty of no errors of taste which were not due to the author. The play, however, not only failed to please, but excited an altogether unusual demonstration of dissatisfaction, even yells and hootings accompanying the final fall of the curtain. The *contrempeis* was doubly unfortunate, since the occasion was the opening of the house under a spirited new management.

O'Keefe's *Wild Oats*, which had not, we think, been performed in London since Miss Henrietta Hodson played with such charming freshness and simplicity the part of the Quakerish Lady Amaranth at the Royalty, was revived at the STRAND Theatre on Monday last. Miss Virginia Bateman, who is the Lady Amaranth on this occasion, is not wanting in grace, though there is no great force in her performance; Mr. Edward Compton is vivacious enough in the part of the stage-struck Rover; Mr. J. S. Blythe is to be credited with a rather highly-coloured but decidedly clever performance of the old admiral's boatswain and servant; and Mr. Lewis Ball's Sir George Thunder, Miss Sylvia Hodson's Jane, Mr. Burton's Harry Thunder, and Mr. Valentine's Smooth, are all meritorious impersonations. The company, who have had considerable practice in the country, act well together, and the revival of this somewhat compressed version of the farcical old play is decidedly creditable.

Mr. Toole is pretty certain to receive a hearty welcome at the hands of old friends and admirers at his elegant little theatre at Charing Cross this evening. He presents himself after his long absence in the provinces once more in *Artful Cards* and *Stage Dora*. A new comedy, however, entitled *A Mint of Money*, written by Mr. Arthur Law, is in preparation.

The story of Mr. Pinero's *Lords and Commons* at the HAY-MARKET Theatre has been discovered to be nearly identical with that of an unacted play by "Ouida," entitled *Afternoon*. It seems to be the fate of Mr. Pinero to be reminded of resemblances between his plays and other people's stories. The explanation in this case probably is that "Ouida" has also borrowed a hint from the Swedish novel to which Mr. Pinero—though he seems to have been in some confusion regarding its Swedish title—has candidly acknowledged his obligations. This reminds us that Mr. William Archer, author of "Dramatists of To-Day," who is well known to have a competent acquaintance with the Swedish language and literature, has undertaken to make a comparison between *Lords and Commons* and *Mannen af Börd*, in an article to be contributed to the next number of *The Theatre*. It is understood that Mr. Archer will defend the play against the very general complaints of the critics.

A fox hunt with "real horses and hounds" is, it appears, to be one of the novelties of Mr. E. L. Blanchard's forthcoming pantomime at DRURY LANE. The relevancy of such an incident to the story of *Cinderella* is not very apparent, but pantomime writers are accustomed to exercise a wide discretion, or indiscretion, in such matters. One of Mr. Caldecott's half-comic illustrations is said to have furnished the hint for the details of the hunt.

When *Our Boys* is revived at the CRITERION, at Christmas, the part of Geoffrey Champeys, originally played by Mr. William Farren, will be assigned to his son, Mr. William Farren, jun., a young actor of very remarkable promise, who seems destined to sustain the historical reputation of the Farren family on the stage.

Mr. Hollingshead has taken Shakespeare rather severely to task in a letter to the *Daily News*, on the ground of the poet's excessive regard for money-making. It seems that in the days of Elizabeth a manager who printed his plays practically lost his stage profits, and hence Shakespeare never published any edition of his works, and

it is only by good luck that we possess the corrupt and imperfect copies which have come down to us. Mr. Hollingshead asks Mr. Furnivall to say whether this was setting a noble example to latter-day managers.

THE NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE opened on Monday with one of those gorgeous "fairy spectacular operas" with which the old house was so wont to be associated. The building has been reconstructed much after the model of its predecessor, save that the private boxes on the first tier have been abolished to make way for a dress-circle and a "lounge," while every care has been exercised to render the whole theatre as fireproof as possible. The interior decorations are probably not yet finished, as the present mode of colouring is exceedingly glaring—and, indeed, offensive to the eye. There is one marked improvement, however, in the auditorium—namely, in its acoustic properties, which are now admirable. The "opera" produced is entitled *The Golden Ring*, to which Mr. George R. Sims has supplied the libretto and Mr. Frederic Clay the music, both of which we may fairly say are far above the average standard of such works. That such music also is not above the heads of even Alhambra audiences is manifest, if only by the enthusiastic way in which a glee of fisher boys and maidens—quite in Bishop's style—was applauded. The plot of the piece turns on the struggle between good and evil fairies, by whom mortals are transported hither and thither at sweet will—a device which, as usual, serves as a medium for the introduction of numerous and varied scenes in different parts of the globe. The ballets are as tasteful, and the dresses as magnificent as of yore, and we must congratulate M. Bertrand, stage manager and ballet master, on the admirable manner in which his charges have been drilled—not a hitch occurred throughout the whole evening. The singing, like the music, is decidedly of a higher character than usual, while the comic acting, which heretofore has rarely been without a *souçon* of vulgarity, is humorous without in any degree degenerating into coarseness. Mr. J. G. Taylor is irresistibly funny as the King Calino; while Mr. Mudie shows that even an Alhambra King's follower can excite a hearty laugh without shocking any sense of refinement. Mr. F. Gaillard sings and acts well as the lover, Prince Florian, and Mr. Aynsley Cook as a burly evil spirit, Arimenes, makes the best of a poor part by his excellent singing. Turning to the ladies, Miss Constance Loseby never sang better to advantage than as the "White Queen," the good fairy; while Miss Marion Hood is not far behind as the heroine, the Princess Blanche. We must not forget, however, the humour of Miss Sallie Turner as King Calino's jealous wife, and the sprightly liveliness of Miss Irene Verona as Casquette. Altogether the performance is a distinct success, and Mr. Holland may be congratulated on having so favourably opened his new campaign.

All playgoers and lovers of music will regret to learn the sad affliction which has befallen Mr. Frederic Clay, the composer of the above opera, which he had conducted on Monday night. While walking with his friend, Mr. G. R. Sims, in Bow Street, on Wednesday, he was suddenly visited with an apoplectic fit, from which he has only partially recovered.

Mrs. Sara Lane announces her Annual Benefit at the BRITANNIA Theatre on Monday next. The chief feature in the Programme is the "Britannia Festival," in which each member of the company bids farewell to the audience for the season.

## ARISTOPHANE'S "BIRDS" AT CAMBRIDGE

WHEN Aristophanes brought out his *Birds* the scenic display was the grandest which even Athens had ever seen. When Shakespeare was acting at the Globe he had nothing but the most meagre collection of stage properties. Why? Not surely because a more cultured intellect in his audience made them independent of such vanities, but simply because he could not afford them. The Reformation had ruined Church and Stage. Gorgeous spectacles had gone the way of grand functions, and private effort didn't yet soar beyond masques. Aestheticism now demands costume and illusion, and plenty of it; and Mr. J. W. Clark and Professor Newton will be thought by some to have erred rather in defect than in excess.

It must be very hard to do at all what they did so well at Cambridge last week. The thing was a wonderful success. To succeed in tragedy is nothing in comparison; for Greek tragedy has saturated modern thought. In France, for centuries, people have delighted in what is, to a great extent, Euripides in French. But Aristophanes, whose wit is so bound up in the politics of his day that even translators like Hookham Frere and Walsh have failed to render him popular, how could any one hope to make him appeal to the sympathies of a modern audience? Yet the thing has been done, thanks to Mr. Clark's management and to the German-American energy of the new Curator of the Fitzwilliam. Time after time, morning and evening, the theatre has been crowded, certainly not because the Royal pupil set the fashion. There were a number of evidently appreciative ladies. Girton, of course, is equal to anything in Greek. Yet there was so much by-play (that hoopoe-king putting his head, bird-like, on one side; that owl-leader of the Opposition pricking up his ears at the promise of universal dominion, for instance) that no one who had read the translation could fail to follow the plot. I speak of the play as a whole, not of such choice bits as that in which Prometheus, always a friend to man, sneaks out of Olympus, huddled up in disguising wraps, and, sitting as close to Mr. Plausible as the Widow does to Uncle Toby, whispers that the gods are about sending to treat for terms, and advises him to be satisfied with nothing but the surrender of the thunderbolts and the hand of Miss Sovereignty, Jove's handsome and richly-dowered serving-maid. Mr. Cust was perfect. The way in which, popping out from under his Chinese umbrella with its Goggin's head, he cried: "I hate these present gods," and instantly popped under again for fear Jove or some of them should find out who said it, was irresistible. The costumes left little to be desired. The onset of the birds on the two men, who beat them off with wine-jar and olive-branch, was excellent. Indeed, the Chorus in action was always delightful; in repose the wings, so good when spread, seemed dragged—hanging like Polynesian feather cloaks. Might one dare to suggest: "Another time keep moving about more; let every bird be as mobile as the storks and swans, who were always doing something or other with their necks." There was a moment's sparring between the two cocks which might have made a good point had those birds ever seen old Dr. Buckland at his Geology lectures. I can see him now, with his gown tucked up to form a tail, setting foot before foot as he stalked across the room to prove to us that the big prints in the new red sandstone are those of a bird and not of a saurian. But to bring to such a high degree of excellence a score of amateurs, who had lectures and athletics and the rest of their Cambridge life to attend to at the same time, proves on the part of the managers not patience only but contagious enthusiasm. Those Birds had a deal of hard work to go through and they did it right well, while one of them (Mr. Maquay of Trinity) sang behind the scenes King Hoopoe's summons to his subjects with a sweetness which did full justice to Dr. Parry's music; and reminded us that in Aristophanes there is always something which soars quite above what most people mean by Comedy.

With the acting, Dr. Mahaffy, arbiter of "Social Life in Old Greece," could have found no fault. Plausible is a bit of a cad. There was very little real gentlemanliness in the old Greek character, and so Mr. James was quite right in shily

fingering King Hoopoe's wings to see what they are made of, and in bullying that tall graceful Iris off the stage. Altogether, the thing was so well done that one feels sure the success at Cambridge is only the herald of larger triumphs elsewhere; while the least Trinity can do is to carry out the letter of its Foundation by making Mr. Clark "Præfectus Ludorum qui Imperator dicitur."

H. S. F.



## RURAL NOTES

THE WEATHER.—Not only have some recent days been fine beyond our best hopes for autumn, but as they have died away they have given us sunsets which even a Turner could not have painted or a Ruskin have described. Over great cities the rush of flaming light has suggested an actual conflagration, while the cloud-glow has been of indescribable beauty, the colours usually fading from intense orange into deep crimson, and fine deep crimson into dim purple. The sunrise, too, has been extremely lovely, that of Thursday, the 29th of November, wonderfully so. A fiery red sunrise is not regarded as a fine-weather sign in England, yet the day that followed was exceptionally brilliant. From London Bridge the Tower appeared standing out in relief so sharp against the red background that a wonderful clearness of atmosphere was disclosed. The sunrise soon became of a lighter, though still more burning red, and this gradually merged into the golden light of full day. Similar splendid aerial effects have been observed all over England, and especially on the Southern Coast.

SALMON.—The Northern rivers just now are full of spawning fish. The angling season on the Tweed ended with November, after an exceptionally good year. One angler killed over a hundred salmon. We regret to hear that salmon disease has broken out in the upper reaches both of the Tweed and of the Teviot.

THE TURNIP CROP IN SCOTLAND is always of much importance to North British farmers, so that it is bad news to learn that the yield of 1883 proves distinctly under an average. Canker got at the roots in many cases, in others the growth seems to have been dwarfed through unfavourable influences. The North and East are reported to have fifty per cent. under an average, while the South and West do not exceed a mean yield. Across country from Dumfries to Ayr the Lowlands showed some good fields, and so do the Lothians, but in the Highlands a good field of turnips is this year a decided rarity. The good loams bear the best turnips this year. On the whole the Scotch yield is probably twenty-five per cent. under average.

POTATOES, a variable but on the whole a good crop this year, have been pressed early on sale, and are now decidedly cheap. Magnum Bonums are in much favour, but the Champions are not so good as formerly, while Regents and Sweet Red potatoes appear to be going out. A new potato, the Reading Hero, is very well spoken of, but we do not hear much about last season's "success," the "White Elephant." Germany has a liberal yield, but has not thus far shipped largely.

BIRMINGHAM SHOW has proved a fair one. Herefords were not at all numerous, but the quality was high. Shorthorns, unfortunately, were a very poor lot. Cross-breeds were rather poor as regards quality, but Devons were a keen contest and a good show. Scotch polled cattle were a small but attractive exhibition. Roots were a very remarkable display, the Swedes, kohlrabi, wurzel, and turnips being of really splendid growth, and perfect triumphs of horticultural art. Poultry were an extraordinarily large show, though the ever-popular Dorkings were rather a weak display. The special features of the poultry were the Brahmas, the Langshans, and the Spanish fowls. Ducks and geese were a very fine display.

CORN.—The sales of English wheat at 187 markets last week were 73,461 qrs., and the average price 40s. 2d. Last year at 150 markets 54,666 qrs. were sold, and the mean value 41s. 5d. The low price now prevailing is so disappointing to farmers that many persons look to see more restricted deliveries for some weeks. Barley sales were 164,672 qrs., and the mean price 32s. 6d. per qr., while of oats 13,773 qrs. were sold, and 19s. 5d. was quoted. The sales of barley were exceptionally large, the price of oats exceptionally low. The present position of the market is as little encouraging to growers of spring corn as it is to wheat farmers. The price of alsike clover and linseed is advancing, but malt is on the decline.



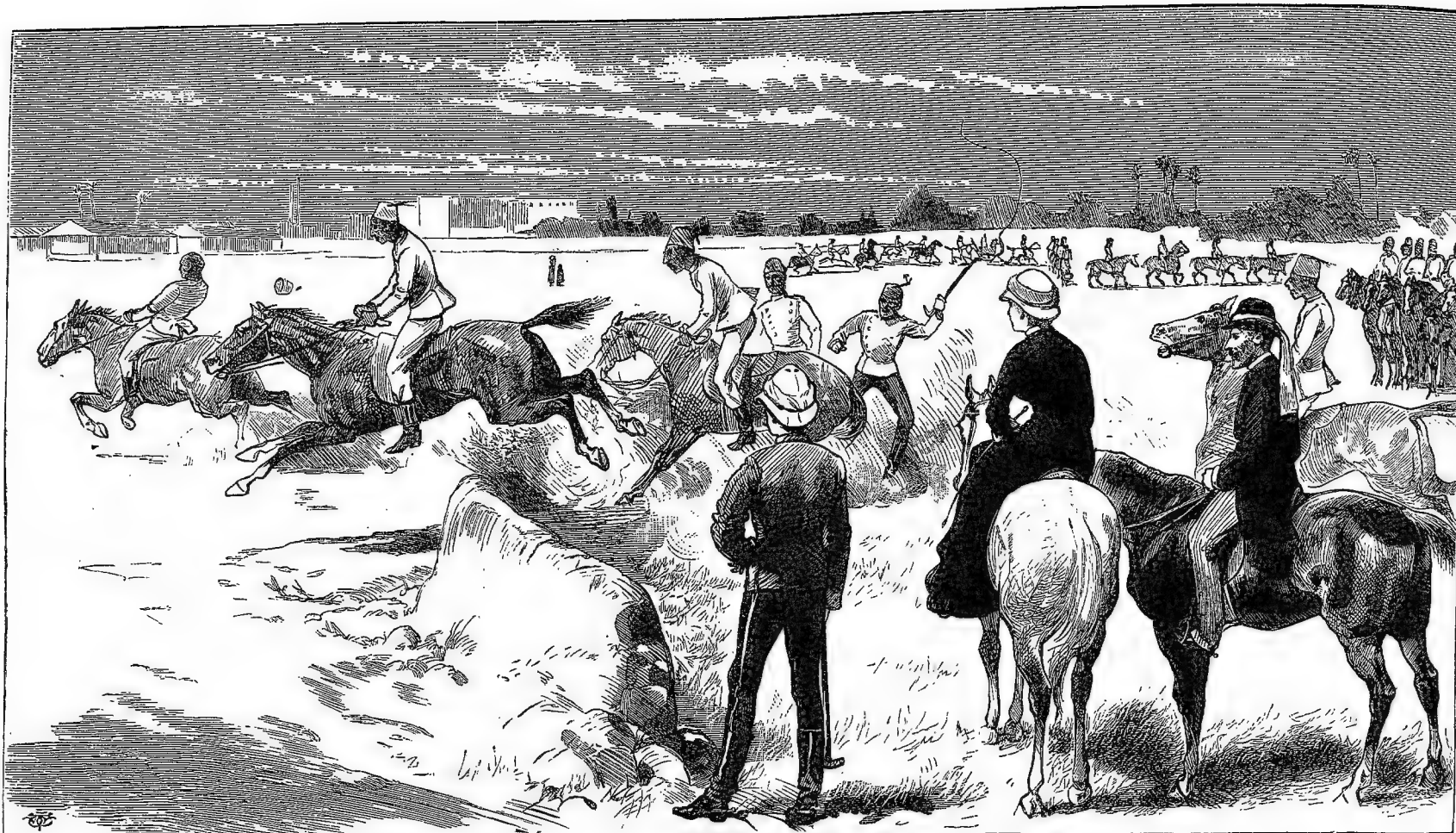
## PASTIMES

THE TURF.—Story we have none to tell this week, as we shall have gone to press before the jumpers have completed their first day's work at Sandown Park, where the gathering will pretty well conclude the pre-Christmas "Cross-Country" business. But as frost and snow have come to fulfil the prophecies that the recent red sunsets indicated their speedy advent, Sandown for once in a way may suffer from meteorological causes, and the chasing be put off. There is little or no news on Turf matters generally; horses, trainers, and jockeys having gone into winter quarters, and perhaps not displeased at the prospect of a spell of frost before Christmas. The Duke of Beaufort's Petronel, who won the Two Thousand in 1880, lost his form for a considerable time, but afterwards recovered it, and became one of our best stayers, has left Newmarket for the stud at Badminton. A company has been formed to establish a race-course near Hull. The Jockey Club has given its licence for the meeting.

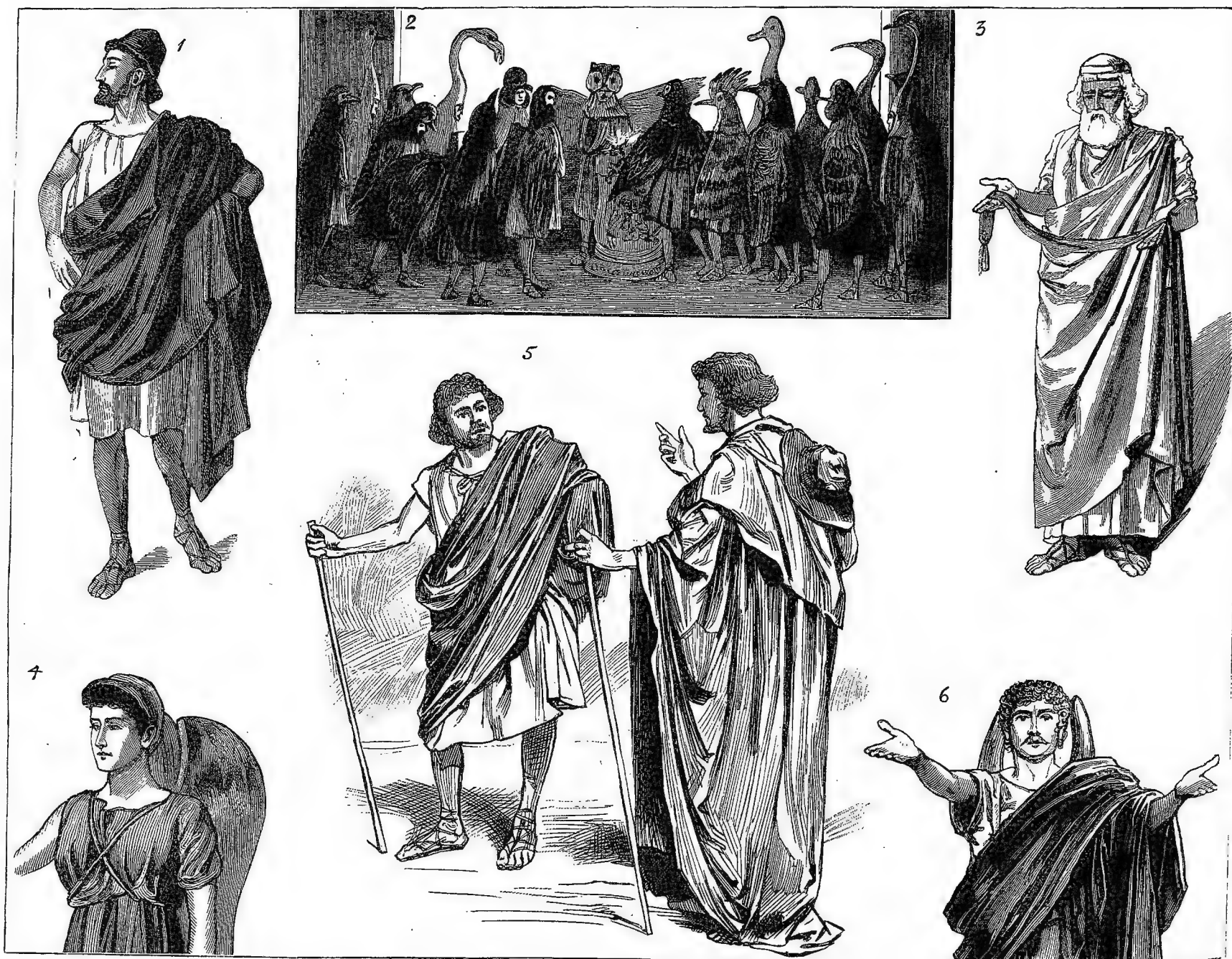
FOOTBALL.—A good many important games have been played in the Association Cup contest since our last Notes. In Vincent Square, amid the cheers of a sympathetic neighbourhood, the Old Westminsters have beaten Hendon, whose team, it may be remembered, a little while ago lowered the colours of the Old Etonians.—Wales way, Oswestry, the holders of the Association Cup, has beaten Wrexham; and in the Midlands Notts has beaten Nottingham Forest; while Excelsior (Birmingham) and Derby Midland have played a drawn game. Blackburn Olympic, the holders of the Cup, has beaten formidable Darwen, and the Blackburn Rovers Blackpool.—Southwards Romford has proved superior to the Mosquitoes; the Clapham Rovers to Rochester; the Swifts to Great Marlow; and the Old Wykehamists to Windsor.—On St. Andrew's Day, Eton as usual held high football festival, and the Collegers beat the Oppidans in the annual time-honoured game "at the wall," but only one "shy" was scored. In the "field" afterwards Cambridge beat Oxford with two goals and a "rouge" to a goal and a "rouge."

SHOOTING.—Sportsmen interested in the acclimatisation of game birds will be glad to hear that the Prince of Wales has at last succeeded in establishing red grouse on his Sandringham estate, and has shot several of them there this season as a present to the Queen.—News has come from America that Dr. Rowe, of Chicago,





THE NEW EGYPTIAN ARMY—PUTTING THE CAVALRY OVER THE JUMPS AFTER MORNING RIDING SCHOOL



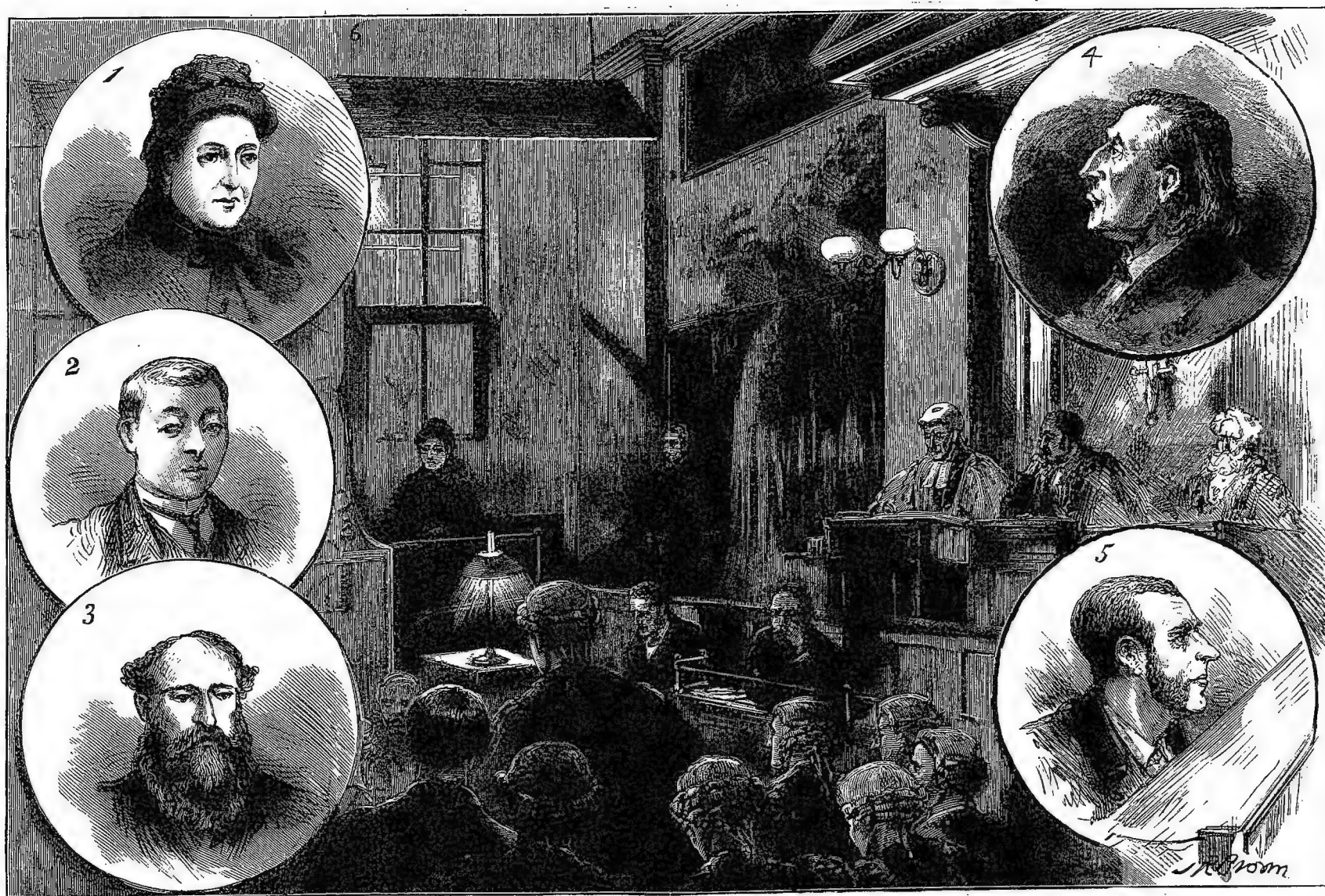
1. Inspector : Mr. Guillemard.—2. The Chorus.—3. Priest : Mr. Benson.—4. Iris : Mr. Maxse.—5. Euelpides : Mr. Newton ; Pithetaerus : Mr. James.—6. Mr. Platts Recites the Parabasis.

THE PERFORMANCE OF "THE BIRDS" OF ARISTOPHANES AT ST. ANDREW'S HALL, CAMBRIDGE, BY MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY





THE BOERS AND THEIR TREATMENT OF THE BLACKS—TWO YEARS' WAGES IN THE TRANSVAAL



1. Mrs. Carey.—2. Thomas Francis Carey, Son of the late James Carey.—3. Mr. Nathan Marks, Hotel-Keeper at Cape Town, who Witnessed the Murder of James Carey.—4. General Pryor, of the United States Bar.—5. Patrick O'Donnell.

THE TRIAL OF PATRICK O'DONNELL AT THE OLD BAILEY FOR THE MURDER OF JAMES CAREY ON THE HIGH SEAS—  
SCENE IN COURT DURING THE CROSS-EXAMINATION OF MRS. CAREY



who has gone to great trouble and expense in cultivating his Laverack-Duke-Phoenix cross of setters, has determined to send half-a-dozen of his animals to this country next spring to compete in some of our public field trials.

**COURSING.**—We shall have to wait till after Christmas for any important public meetings, but it may be noted in reference to "enclosed" coursing, that at Kempton Park, last week, the hares more than held their own with the dogs; and that at Gosforth Park, out of forty slipped at only fourteen were killed.

**ANGLING.**—Through the kindness of the Marquis of Exeter a nice lot of the black bass, recently brought by Mr. Silk from America, have been put into the River Nene. Some also have been put into the Welland.

**AQUATICS.**—The Oxford Trial Eights will be rowed on the 8th inst., at Moulsoford, near Wallingford; and the Cambridge at Ely, on the 12th. A good many changes have recently been made in the crews on the Cam.

**LACROSSE.**—The most important of the matches in the south recently played was that between Cambridge University and Clapton, at Walthamstow, on Saturday last, when, after a very hard tussle, the University won by one game to none.

**BILLIARDS.**—An international match, 3,000 cannons up, has been played at Paris, between M. Vigneux, the French champion, and Mr. Schaefer, the American champion, the former winning by 140. By the way, it is said that an ingenious inventor has discovered a way of manufacturing capital billiard balls out of potatoes subjected to a chemical process.

## LEGAL

THE NORMAL STATE OF THINGS in Irish judicial administration has now been restored. The Queen has approved of the appointment of Sir Edward Sullivan to be Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and of Mr. Porter, M.P., the Attorney-General, to succeed him as Master of the Rolls. Mr. Naish, the Solicitor-General, is to be the new Attorney-General, and Mr. C. Walker, Q.C., will be the Solicitor-General.

FROM an interesting correspondence, just published, between the Attorney-General and Lord Chief Justice Coleridge, it appears that the Judges two years ago carefully considered the point of law raised at O'Donnell's trial as to the right of counsel to repeat statements which are made to them by a prisoner, and for which no evidence can be adduced. At a meeting of the Judges called to consider the point in November, 1881, it was decided, by a majority of nineteen to two, that it is contrary to the administration and practice of the criminal law, as hitherto allowed, that counsel for prisoners should state to the jury, as alleged existing facts, matters which they had been told in their instructions on the authority of the prisoner, but which they do not propose to prove in evidence. In communicating this resolution to Sir Henry James, Lord Coleridge says: "Generally, I agree with you, that the practice is wrong, and not to be permitted, and that, if permitted at all, it must, in justice and fairness, carry with it the right of reply on the part of counsel for prosecution."

JUDGMENT for the respondent (originally the plaintiff), the nature, but not the grounds of which was previously known, has been

delivered by the House of Lords in the case of "Dobbs v. the Grand Junction Waterworks Company." It had been before the Courts for two years, and came before their Lordships as an appeal by the company against a decision of the Court of Appeal. The company claimed under their Act to rate the respondent for a house which he owned and occupied at its gross annual value, the respondent contending that the words "annual value" in the Act must be construed as meaning net value—that is, what remains after deducting from the gross value the expenditure on insurance and repairs.

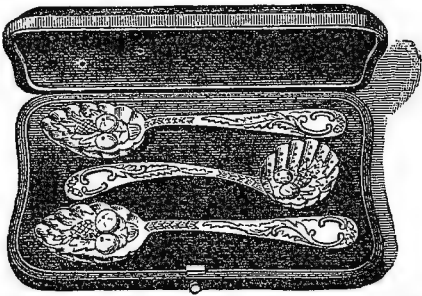
ALREADY the East London Waterworks Company has been threatened with proceedings for the recovery of a surcharge, being the difference between what they had charged for a quarter on the gross value of the complainant's house and what would have been chargeable on its net value.

AFTER A FORTNIGHT'S TRIAL the Whalley will case, "Priestman v. Thomas," of the facts of which a summary has been given in this column, ended in a verdict for the plaintiff, and the will which led him to agree to a compromise with the defendant is pronounced to be a forgery. Orders were given that the documents produced in Court should be impounded.

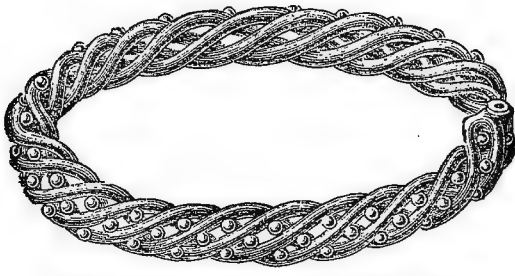
ON THE RE-EXAMINATION OF WOOLF, charged with the unlawful possession of explosives in his house at Westminster, he and his lodger Bondurant, with a brother of the latter, not in custody, were represented by the prosecution as having plotted to explode canisters of gunpowder at the German Embassy, in order to procure reward by giving the police information against each other. The prisoners were remanded for a week.

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PRESENTS.

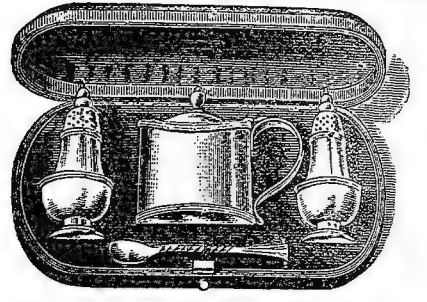
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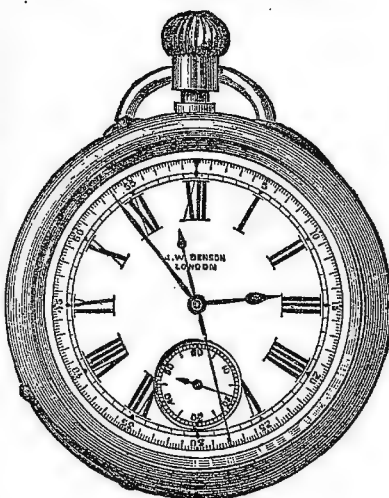
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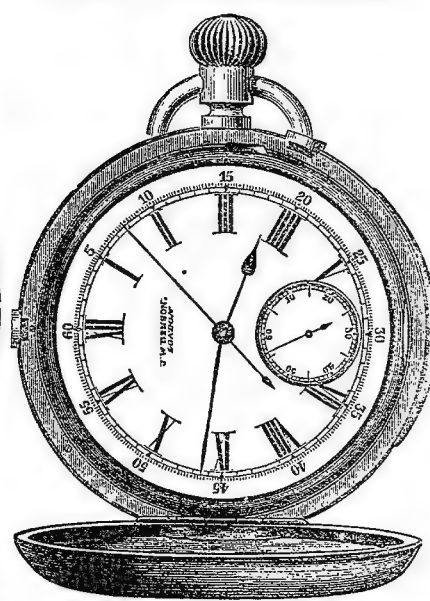
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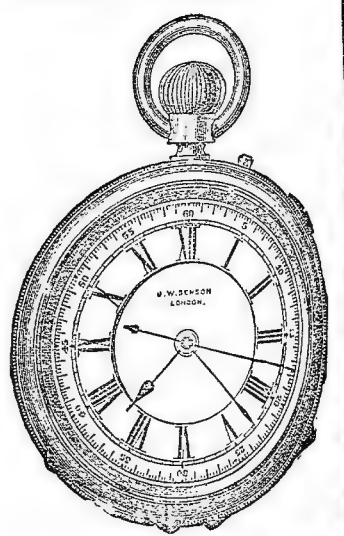
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DRAWN BY WILLIAM SMALL

Paulina, arrayed in a brilliant blue silk dinner dress, trimmed with Limerick lace, was sitting bolt upright upon the edge of her chair, twirling her thumbs.

## THIRLBY HALL

By W. E. NORRIS,

AUTHOR OF "MOLLE. DE MERSAC," "NO NEW THING," &C.

### CHAPTER XXXII. (continued)

ONLY Mrs. Farquhar and Paulina were in the drawing-room when I entered. The latter, arrayed in a brilliant blue silk dinner-dress, trimmed with Limerick lace, was sitting bolt upright upon the edge of her chair and twirling her thumbs. Poor Paulina's hands were large and red, and the disproportionate amount of wrist characteristic of the lower middle class of Great Britain was rendered more conspicuous in her case by absence of bracelets or of any black-velvet substitute for them. Mrs. Farquhar was evidently in the act of administering a lecture.

"My dear, you must allow me to tell you that it is a wife's duty to influence her husband for good. I'm not saying that I would force a man to attend service twice in the day against his will; but to walk up and down the high-road on Sunday morning, with a shooting-coat on his back and a cigar in his mouth, while the people are coming out of church, is just indecent; and it is your duty to make him see it."

Paulina threw an appealing glance at me. "You tell her, sir—Charles, I mean," she said. "There's no use of me talking. I'm sure I've done my best with Harry; but if he won't go to church, he won't—and that's all about it."

I was preparing a little speech which should be pleasant to both parties; but before I could open my lips, Mrs. Farquhar turned upon me with—

"Oh, I wouldn't expect *you* to advocate church-going. I'm told that you and your friends spend the Sunday in paying and receiving visits."

It struck me that, if I was to be badgered by Mrs. Farquhar all the evening, I might lose that aspect of serenity which I was anxious to maintain, and I thought perhaps it would be best to take the bull by the horns without further delay; so I said:—"Mrs. Farquhar, suppose we conclude a treaty of peace. You have carried your point, or your point has been carried without your aid; I am out of the running, and you will do no good to anybody by saying disagreeable things to me. I make you welcome to call me anything you like when my back is turned; but so long as I am in the room, let us be civil to one another. I am sure you are far too sensible to flog a dead horse."

This appeal was not, perhaps, couched in the most judicious possible terms; but it had the merit of putting the case plainly, and I think most people would have seen the advisability of avoiding needless bickerings. But Mrs. Farquhar was not like most people.

"The man's demented!" she exclaimed contemptuously. "I never say disagreeable things to any one."

Paulina broke into a short, startling laugh, which she checked abruptly.

"What I have said of you," Mrs. Farquhar continued, with dignity, "I maintain to be true; and if you find it disagreeable, it must be because your own conscience accuses you. As a Christian woman I am bound to protest against Sunday visiting—"

"Quite right—quite right!" struck in the General, who entered the room at this moment. "We have six days in the week for work and play, and we oughtn't to go poaching on the seventh."

"You remind me of the Devil quoting Scripture, Tom," said Mrs. Farquhar, ungratefully. "I would rather see you practice than hear you preach."

"Well, well," muttered the General, looking rather disconcerted, "I'm afraid we're none of us what we ought to be. Charley, come and look at this clearing they have made in the shrubbery; I think it's an improvement." And, beckoning me towards the window, he whispered: "For goodness' sake, keep the peace, if you can. I've been feeling as if I was smoking in a powder-magazine ever since I came down here."

Harry joined us before I could ask for any explanation; but when we went in to dinner, I was able to see for myself that the elements of an explosion were not lacking. During that long and most uncomfortable meal Mrs. Farquhar surpassed herself. Not one of us, except Harry, escaped attack; not one of us was suffered to make the most innocent remark without prompt and flat contradiction; and the luckless Paulina was snubbed and lectured after a fashion which Job himself would not have tolerated. What possessed the old lady to behave in this way I don't know. Perhaps she was beginning to perceive that her great scheme was not turning out a success; perhaps she merely wanted to stir up an argument; perhaps she was exasperated by the meekness with which we received her assaults.

It is probable that we should have been less meek if we had not felt that a spark would be sufficient to blow us all sky-high. Paulina was evidently controlling herself only by strenuous efforts, and of the men I declare I don't know which was the most ill at ease. The General's nervousness displayed itself by forced laughter and irrelevant anecdotes; my uncle's was apparent in total silence and loss of appetite; while Harry's took the most objectionable form of all. I had seen him in awkward situations before—as, for instance, at Lord Rossan's dinner-table—and he had always extricated himself from them with perfect ease and *aplomb*; but now these useful qualities seemed to have quite deserted him, and he contrived to do everything that he ought not to have done. He talked too loudly; he asserted himself a great deal too much; he complained that the sherry was corked, and sent Cooper for a fresh bottle, to which, when it was brought, he devoted himself more assiduously than was prudent; and all the time he kept glancing furtively at his father, as if he half expected to be ordered out of the room. By the time that the ladies had left us, he had worked himself up into a condition of pot-valiance which found expression in the most ill-judged familiarities, and at last he forgot himself so far as to ask me, with a wink, whether I had had "any news of her ladyship."

Shortly after this my uncle, who had not once looked at or spoken to his son, withdrew, and reappeared no more that evening; and when we reached the drawing-room we found that Paulina also had retired.

"If this sort of thing goes on," whispered the General to me, while Harry was talking to Mrs. Farquhar, "I shall have to kick that fellow—I know I shall!"

"Has it been like this all along?" I asked, in the same low voice.

"Pretty much the same—not quite so bad, perhaps. Your arrival has put their backs up, I expect. We shall have the devil's own delight before very long, you'll see. If my mother goes on nagging at the barmaid, it's my belief that she'll have a knife put into her; there's a suppressed ferocity about that woman that I don't like. As for the pitiful little beast over there, hang me if I'll put up with much more of *his* impudence to please anybody!"

"Let us keep our temper whatever happens," I urged. "I never saw Harry behave in this way before, and I think he has lost his head a little. Does my uncle never take the smallest notice of him? It seems to me that that the poor fellow is simply terrified."

"Terrified?—sherryfied, you mean!" growled the General. "Look here, Charley, I want to talk to you. Come into the billiard-room, and let us have a quiet cigar."

But we were destined to have no quiet conversation that evening; for Harry, who seemed nervously anxious not to let me out of his sight, insisted on accompanying us to the billiard-room, and, when there, made himself pleasant by saying:—

"Now don't you get talking secrets, you two. I'll tell you what: I'll play you a game of billiards, old cock, and give you twenty in a hundred."

"I'll thank you not to address me in that way, sir," called out the General fiercely. "In point of fact, if you ever dare to take such a liberty again, I'll catch hold of you by the scruff of your neck and the seat of your trousers, and chuck you out of the nearest window, sir."

"Wha—what the deuce is the matter with the old fool?" stammered Harry, as the General strode away, slamming the door after him. "Never mind, we've got rid of him, anyhow. Come on, Charley, you and I can play evens, I suppose."

"I don't think you are in a state to play billiards without cutting the cloth," I answered. "You had much better go to bed."

He stared at me stupidly for a few moments, frowning and trying to collect his senses. "All right, old fellow, all right," he said at last. "I know I've had a glass too much; but I don't care! You won't get me out of this again in a hurry, I can tell you. I hold two trumps, don't you see?—the old lady and the boy. Got any cards to beat those? Pay up, then, and look pleasant."

He walked out of the room, chuckling to himself and muttering, "Pay up, and look pleasant—look pleasant!"

In this agreeable manner my first evening at home came to an end.

Neither Harry nor Paulina appeared at breakfast the next morning, and I devoutly hoped that the former might be suffering from a headache and a fit of repentance. His absence was a comfort,



so far as it went; but we should have been a morose party had not Jimmy enlivened us with an amusing flow of babble. As soon as we had risen from the table he possessed himself of my arm and requested to be taken out to shoot partridges forthwith; but the General interposed.

"No," said he; "I want your Cousin Charley to take a walk with me this morning; afterwards you can do what you like with him."

"All right," answered the boy; "then I shall go out with Grandfather."

The general and I walked across the dewy lawn in silence; but when we were out in the park, and beyond risk of being overheard, my companion took up his parable. "Well, of all the infernal schemes that ever were hatched for turning things topsy-turvy, this strikes me as being the most uncalculated! What do you expect to be the result of it?—that's what I want to know."

I confessed that I was in some doubt as to how it would all end. "You ought never to have allowed it to begin!" cried the General peevishly. "What's the good of you, if you can't make yourself heard on the side of order? I'm devilish sorry for you, Charley; but it seems to me that you have brought this upon yourself, and I tell you plainly I don't think you'll ever be squire of this parish now."

"I don't expect to be," answered I; "and, except for one or two reasons, I don't wish to be. I should be very well contented, if Harry would only behave himself."

"Behave himself!—he'll behave himself as he always has done. Do you suppose his father didn't know what he was about when he turned him out of doors? He'll make ducks and drakes of the property as soon as he comes into it; and he won't have long to wait either; for he is killing my poor brother by inches."

"I hope not," said I.

"It's all very well for you to say you hope not," retorted the General; "but hoping till you're black in the face won't alter the fact. Some men might manage to put up with vulgarity and insolence on one side and everlasting nagging on the other—I might put up with it—or rather, I should precious soon put a stop to it. But Bernard isn't made of that sort of stuff. He'll go on suffering in silence until, one of these fine mornings, he is found dead in his bed. It's—it's enough to make a man swear, by George!"

And the General proceeded to illustrate his assertion amply and satisfactorily.

For my own part, I should have been glad to get away and hear what my uncle had to say; but I was not allowed to return to the house before two o'clock, by which time the whole party was assembled in the dining-room for luncheon.

Harry, looking pale and downcast, was more like himself, and a great deal less obnoxious than he had been on the previous evening. Paulina, on the other hand, was flushed and excited. The cause of this uneasiness upon her part explained itself to me when it transpired that we were all to attend a garden-party at the Welbys' that afternoon. From various hints that were dropped, I conjectured that this was the first public recognition of Harry and his wife vouchsafed by the county, and my surmise was converted into certainty by my uncle's whispering to me, as we left the room after luncheon, "I hope you won't mind being present at this function, Charley. I mean to go myself."

Now, as my uncle had not been seen at a garden-party within the memory of man, it was safe to conclude that the present occasion was no ordinary one, and I could only trust—though without any sanguine expectations—that we might all come out of the ordeal creditably.

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### PAULINA ENTERS SOCIETY

A GARDEN-PARTY nowadays is only another name for a lawn-tennis party, and has developed—so far as a mere on-looker can judge—into a form of entertainment rather popular than otherwise. But thirty years ago there were no such relaxations to mitigate the severity of the outdoor gatherings held periodically by Sir Digby and Lady Welby, and when the nobility and gentry of East Norfolk met together in the grounds of Stanningham Hall, there was literally nothing for them to do but to sit or stand in groups on the lawn and survey one another patiently.

From time to time Sir Digby would approach one of the most important ladies of the district, and would say to her in a low, confidential voice, "I want to show you my *Lapageria alba*;" whereupon the two would pace gravely away together towards the conservatory in which the exotic referred to was to be admired. The lady would generally return alone, and, after a decent interval Sir Digby would be seen bearing down upon the matron next in rank, whom he would address in precisely identical terms. As a matter of fact, he neither knew nor cared anything about horticulture; but probably he had a hazy notion that some attention ought to be shown to people, and in a moment of inspiration he hit upon the above formula, which served him faithfully through many seasons.

The thought of Paulina making her *début* upon that solemn scene gave me a cold shiver all up my back, and when she entered the drawing-room, ready to start, with a flushed face, a Stuart-tartan gown, and a pair of yellow gloves much too small for her, I basely thanked my stars that there would be no room for me in the carriage, and that therefore I should be spared the agony of witnessing the sensation which her first appearance would cause.

She herself appeared to be in unaccountably high spirits, and was talking and laughing loudly; but Harry looked the picture of misery, and my uncle, though maintaining a calm exterior, was evidently apprehensive. Mrs. Farquhar wore a resolute air. I fancied that she proposed to carry off things with a high hand.

Presently they all drove away together in the old green barouche, Paulina's nodding plumes towering above the head of her protectress, and my uncle and Harry sitting with their backs to the horses; and as soon as they were gone the General and I, who had watched their departure from the door-step, looked at one another and burst into hysterical laughter.

"There's nothing to crack your sides over in this, you know, Charley," remonstrated the General, recovering his gravity, as we set off to take the short cut across the fields. "We shall be laughing on the wrong side of our mouths before the day is over, unless I'm very much mistaken."

It seemed quite upon the cards that we might. Stanningham is a good two miles from Thirlyby, and by loitering and pretending to mistake the way, one may occupy a considerable time in walking two miles; but we reached the lodge all too soon, and here my companion, in the shabbiest way, declared his intention of deserting me.

"Can't help it," he said, in answer to my upbraidings. "Call me a coward, if you like; but not another step do I go, and that's that! I may be wrong; but the way in which that Paulina woman was going on before she started inspired me with the gravest alarm."

"She was flurried," I observed, "and no wonder. But I think we may count upon her being awed into silence very soon after her arrival."

The General shook his head. "I doubt it," said he. "Shall I tell you what I think?" he added, bending forward, and speaking in low, impressive accents. "I believe she's intoxicated!"

And with this awful suggestion he turned and fled precipitately. I walked on with a sinking sensation about the fourth button of my waistcoat. I did not myself share the General's scandalous

suspensions; but I thought it quite possible that others, remarking Paulina's heightened colour and excited mien, might do so, and I knew that in no case could she hope to be met in a spirit of friendliness.

When I emerged upon the lawn where the company was assembled, my worst anticipations were realised. Paulina, seated upon a garden-chair in a conspicuous position, was surrounded by an irregular semi-circle of grave, impassive ladies, who were surveying her much as if she had been some newly-imported variety of wild beast. What she had been saying or doing before my arrival I could only surmise; but there was no mistaking the fact that she had been sent to Coventry. She was now beating the ground impatiently with her foot, while in her eyes there gleamed the light of battle. From a short distance off, Harry, also completely isolated, was gazing at her with a look of stony horror upon his face. I perceived that, if the worst had not already happened, it was going to happen shortly.

My own appearance upon the scene gave the signal for a demonstration which greatly astonished me, until I realised what it meant. No sooner had I advanced from behind the clump of rhododendrons which had masked my preliminary reconnaissance, than the entire company, as if by one consent, jumped up and marched upon me in a solid mass. There was a positive rush to shake me by the hand; I was overwhelmed with the kindest expressions of welcome; I was asked to dinner a dozen times in the space of less than five minutes. Gradually the signification of these generous greetings unfolded itself to me. Out of respect for my uncle, East Norfolk had consented to meet Mr. and Mrs. Harry Le Marchant; but they were not to be spoken to. A firm and united protest was to be entered against their restoration; and I, as the heir whom they had ousted, was to be made the subject of a distinct exhibition of sympathy.

I understood this, I say; but human nature is ever prone to self-love, and I will not deny that the sight of so many friendly faces and the sound of so many friendly words raised me for a minute or two almost up to the point of oblivion. But, chancing to meet my uncle's eyes, which were turned upon me with a certain look of grave regret, and catching sight, immediately afterwards, of Paulina glaring at me from the background, I awoke to the fact that I was playing the enemy's game, and determined upon making one last despairing attempt to avert defeat.

I detached myself from my friends and approached Sir Digby Welby, who was standing apart, stroking his long nose, and doubtless meditating one of his periodical descents into the ladies' camp. He, like the others, received me with a double dose of cordiality, holding my hand and shaking it at intervals, while he expressed the pleasure that it gave him to see me amongst them again. Ordinarily he was a man of few words; but he evidently felt it incumbent upon him to say something now about the altered circumstances under which we met.

"I deplore this resolution of your poor uncle's," he began. "Although we have been friends for many years, I could not take upon me to tell him what I thought; but I very much fear that he is making a great mistake. I assure you that it went to my heart to purchase the Deepham farm from him, often as I have coveted that corner of land."

"As far as I know, that had nothing whatever to do with my cousin's return," said I. "At all events, he is here now, and I am sure that, for my uncle's sake, you will stretch a point to make his position tolerable."

"Oh, certainly," answered Sir Digby, with a touch of coldness; "but I confess that I hardly see—"

"Yes; I know you have invited them here, and that was very kind of you; but it would be very easy to do a little more. Don't you think, Sir Digby," I added persuasively, "that you might just step across the lawn and say a word or two to Mrs. Le Marchant?"

"I—well, I have already done so," answered Sir Digby, looking very much disinclined to oblige me.

"But if you were to do it again, it would produce a much greater effect. You need not stay beside her long; I only want people to notice that you are talking to her."

"Well, well," replied the worthy baronet, not unkindly; "I will endeavour to find some subject of conversation. But really it won't do—it will never do. And the sooner your uncle understands that, the less vexation he will have."

Sir Digby, in fulfilment of his promise, crossed the grass towards Paulina's chair with a slow, dignified step, I following him at a respectful distance.

"I want to show you my *Lapageria alba*," I heard him begin.

"Your *what*?" called out that misguided Paulina, accompanying her question with a short laugh.

"My *Lapageria alba*. If you will allow me to lead the way—"

"Oh, all right!" interrupted Paulina, jumping up with ostentatious alacrity, and speaking very loud. "I don't know what you are talking about; but I'm willing to look at anything, I'm sure. About time too, after being looked at myself for the best part of an hour!"

I began to think that Sir Digby was right, and that it really would never do. When the ill-matched couple had vanished into the conservatory, I drew a long breath of relief, feeling that, at any rate, the danger of some painful scene had been staved off, and I was debating whether I ought not to join Harry, who had now taken refuge upon a distant bench, when I was accosted by Mr. Dennison.

The Rector's countenance wore an expression of the deepest concern. He said he had come to humble himself before me, and to confess the folly of his past conduct. "Father and son, you see—that's the way I looked at it—such a sad pity that they should be divided! How was I to know that the fellow had gone and married a barmaid? Dear, dear! what a bad job! The neighbours all turning up their noses too—and troubles at home—sure to be troubles at home! If I could only have foreseen this, I would have bitten out my tongue sooner than advise Le Marchant as I did!"

I assured the Rector that he might set his mind quite at rest. "Whatever your advice may have been, it was well meant," I said; "but I am perfectly certain that neither your advice nor any one else's has been taken. My uncle has yielded to circumstances, not to the advocacy of his friends. As to the neighbours turning up their noses, he must have been fully prepared for that. He told me long ago that they would never consent to receive Harry again."

"Yes, yes," returned the Rector, who perhaps did not relish being told that his counsel carried so little weight; "but being prepared for a thing is not liking it when it comes. I am prepared to be bullied by Mrs. Farquhar and the Ebenezer man; but their attacks interfere with my digestion all the same. I say, Charley, do you think it is too late to undo all this mischief?"

"I am sure it is," I answered. "You don't understand that my uncle has never really changed his mind; and he won't change it now, unless some positive catastrophe occurs."

"Then," cried the Rector, "let us pray for a positive catastrophe! You take it all in a very creditable spirit, Charley," he went on; "but at the same time, I think you are a little too supine—too supine. You must see that Le Marchant can't possibly live in the same house with these people—perpetual quarrels and disturbances, you know—scandals too, very likely—oh, dear me, it's not to be thought of! I say, you ought to get them away, by hook or by crook. Let Harry be the heir, if he must be the heir; but at least let him hide himself out of sight till his time comes."

I was very much of the Rector's way of thinking; but I didn't see why the burden of carrying out his ideas should be thrown upon my shoulders in that jaunty manner, and I said I should be much

obliged if he would kindly tell me how I was to accomplish Harry's expulsion.

"Oh, that I can't say," he replied; "but you ought to be able to manage it somehow. It's a question of money, I should think; the fellow will take a bribe to make himself scarce. But these are matters which women can judge of better than we can. Why don't you talk it over with Maud? Here she comes; and I know she wants to discuss things with you. Just wait here half a minute; I'll be with you again directly."

And the Rector hurried away to intercept his daughter, who at this moment came out of the house, attended by two or three of the local gilded youth. Apparently he had some little difficulty in shaking off these young gentlemen; but after a time he succeeded, and Maud walked across the lawn towards me with a smile of welcome upon her lips.

"My father says you are anxious to talk to me," she began, after we had shaken hands.

"I am always anxious to talk to you," I replied; "but, in the present instance, I believe it is rather your father who wants you to talk to me. He thinks it desirable that Harry and his wife should be made to leave Thirlyby, and he has taken it into his head that I am the man to bring this about. When I said that I didn't quite see how I was to set to work, he referred me with the utmost confidence to you."

"It strikes me," observed Maud, smiling, "that we have only to leave your cousin and his wife alone, and that they will accomplish their own destruction. If Mr. Le Marchant has not seen enough this afternoon to convince him that they are impracticable, he must be beyond the reach of conviction."

"I can answer for it that he won't turn them out of his house because the neighbours look coldly upon them," said I. "In fact, it is very unlikely that anything would persuade him to turn them out. Yet, if they stay, they will make his life into a perpetual purgatory, I am afraid. What I should like to arrange would be a sort of amicable separation; and I think, if it were clearly understood that Harry was to come into the property eventually, he might consent to remove himself now."

"Very likely he would," answered Maud; "but you will get no help from me towards making an arrangement of that kind. If you are bent upon hanging yourself, you must fit the noose round your own neck as best you can; I shall not do it for you."

"Nevertheless," I remarked, "you would have a poor opinion of me if I took advantage of Paulina's unlucky exhibition to push my own interests."

Maud made an impatient gesture. "You should remember that you are not the only person concerned in this matter," she said. "As for your cousin, I have no sympathy whatever with him. I have taken every opportunity of watching him since I have been home, and I must say that he appears to me as contemptible a little wretch as ever lived."

"Well; for the sake of argument, let us admit that he is," answered I, thinking of what had taken place on the previous evening. "Still, when all is said, he is my uncle's son."

"I can't discuss the question in this public place," said Maud; "it's too long and complicated. Will you come over to the Rectory to-morrow afternoon and see me? Or shall we meet somewhere? Perhaps the Broad would be the best place. I often walk down there in the evening about five o'clock, and we are not likely to be interrupted by anybody, except Bunce. Is that agreed, then?"

I should have preferred her naming any other trysting-place; and I could not repress a pang of regret that she should have no tender associations with a spot which, in spite of all that had come and gone, must always remain sacred to me; but, as our interview was now interrupted by two of the young men above referred to, I could make no demur, and only nodded in answer to her inquiring look.

By this time Paulina had returned from the conservatory, having been forsaken by her host, whom I detected furtively consulting his watch behind a tree. Some of the people were already leaving; I saw with joy that our own carriage had come round from the stable-yard; the close of our trial was at hand; and for the short time that remained I thought I could not do better than engage Paulina in conversation. The attentions of Sir Digby had not availed to soothe her anger, it appeared. She was pacing to and fro like a caged tigress, and swinging her parasol in a manner which suggested she would very much like to bring it down upon somebody's head. I drew nearer, and offered the innocent observation that the days were getting quite short.

"Don't talk to me like that!" shouted Paulina, turning upon me savagely. "Do you think I'm a stock or a stone to put up with such treatment as I've had this afternoon? I won't bear it!—no! not for Harry nor anybody! I tell you I won't bear it!" she repeated with a stamp of her foot.

She looked so wild that I really believed she had lost her senses. I had always been given to understand that the proper way to deal with the insane is to quell them by a display of iron resolution and authority. I therefore fixed my eyes sternly upon those of my companion, and said:—

"Listen to me, Paulina. Unless you command yourself and keep quiet, I shall put you into the carriage and have you driven straight home. If you have anything to complain of, keep it until afterwards: you will not be allowed to make a disturbance here."

To my horror and amazement, she took two steps up to me and snapped her finger and thumb defiantly within half an inch of my nose. "Put me into the carriage, will you?" she cried. "It'd need a bigger man than you to do that, my fine fellow! I dare you to lay a finger upon me! Now then!"

What I should have done with this terrible woman I cannot imagine, if her husband had not providentially heard her voice from afar, and come hurrying up. "Leave her to me," he whispered. "For the Lord's sake, leave her to me, and take yourself off as quick as you can!"

I waited for no second invitation, but retired with more speed than dignity, promising myself that, so far as I was concerned, Paulina should be left to her lawful protector then and at all future times. When I looked round, the pair had already vanished, and I did not see them again until my uncle and Mrs. Farquhar came out of the house and got into the carriage, when they re-appeared—Paulina having by that time subsided seemingly into a condition of stifled fury.

I never felt more relieved in all my life than when I saw them drive away. Harry remained behind, saying that he would walk home with me, if I had no objection. I replied, not over graciously, that he could if he liked; for I did not want his company, and I thought he would have been better employed in restraining his wife from tearing somebody to pieces. I hinted as much to him, as we set off; but he answered, "She'll be quiet enough for the present;" and after that we pursued our way for some distance in silence.

I was feeling too disgusted and disheartened to talk; nor did my companion show any disposition to speak the first word. Thus we marched along side by side until we reached the confines of the park, when Harry remarked abruptly:—

"I suppose you understand all about it now."

It seemed best to have it out; so I said: "There's a good deal that I don't understand. I don't understand your conducting yourself at your father's table as if you were in a pot-house, for instance."

"Suppose we put that on one side for the present. It was inexcusable, of course."

"Quite," said I, having no inclination to spare him.



"Very well; but what I was thinking of was the charming experience that we have just passed through; and I say that I suppose you understand now why I felt some hesitation about introducing Paulina to my family."

I observed that she certainly appeared to have an ungovernable temper.

"It isn't temper," answered Harry quietly; "it's drink."

So the General was right, after all! Being unable to find any comment that seemed suitable, I held my tongue, and by-and-by Harry resumed:—

"Do you mean to say that you have never suspected it? I fancy you are about the only person in the house who has not, unless it is my grandmother, and she is one of those who are blind because they won't see. I knew from the first how it would be. She promised and vowed not to touch a drop of liquor while she was down here, and I took every possible precaution; but of course she has found some means of breaking her word—they always do. And I can tell you that Paulina, when she has one of her drinking fits on, is about as good a candidate for a strait-waistcoat as you'll meet with out of bedlam. It doesn't make her drunk—I wish to Heaven it did!—it simply maddens her."

I said I was very sorry to hear this.

"Are you?" returned Harry, with a harsh laugh. "Well, perhaps you may be; for you are—if you will excuse my saying so—quite the greatest fool I have met in the course of a varied experience. Now don't get angry. If I could begin again I would much rather be a fool of your description than a—shall we say an experienced person?—of mine. But I am what I am, and there's an end of it. Last night I drank too much wine, and no doubt I said some unpleasant things. I lost my nerve, in fact. In former years I used to drink hard, and, though I have given that habit up, the consequences of it have not given me up. I am frightened to death of my father—I always was. I dare say you see nothing very alarming in the fact of being treated with silent contempt; but then your nerves are stronger than mine, and besides, I have lived all these weeks with the perpetual dread of one of Paulina's outbreaks hanging over me. Now that it has come, I declare I feel a weight off my mind. Well, it's an ill wind that blows nobody any good. To-morrow, I take it, we shall receive our marching orders, and you and Lady Constance will be made happy. In all sincerity I can say that I shall be thankful to be out of this. But for the boy, I should never have troubled any of you."

"I think you are jumping to conclusions rather too hastily," I said, feeling sorry for the unfortunate fellow, in spite of myself. "I must confess that the experiment of your living with my uncle seems to me to have failed; but perhaps some other arrangement might be made, so that neither you nor Jimmy should be permanently cut adrift. The principal thing just now is to keep Paulina quiet."

Harry shrugged his shoulders. "That is more easily said than done. I tell you plainly it's beyond me. She's not likely to kick up a row before she reaches home; but when once she's there, she'll go to the brandy-bottle like a fly to a jar of honey, and no power on earth will stop her. You don't know what I have been through with that woman. It wouldn't surprise me in the least if she were to burn the house down to-night."

This was indeed delightful. "What on earth are we to do?" I ejaculated.

"Oh, nothing," answered Harry placidly; "there's nothing to be done. I'll prevent her from coming down to dinner to-night, if I can; but I don't know that I shall achieve it."

"But, hang it all!" I exclaimed, somewhat provoked by his apathy, "surely you can keep her from drinking any more."

"Indeed, I cannot. If I could get hold of the bottle, I should confiscate it; but she'll take very good care I don't do that. It will be concealed in one of her boxes, or poked up the chimney, or something. Besides, to tell you the truth, I don't much care about irritating her in her present state of mind. She is in a towering rage; and, upon my word, I don't wonder at it. You must admit that she has had a good deal of provocation this afternoon."

"No doubt," I answered; "still we mustn't be burnt alive. I wonder whether it would do any good if I spoke to her."

"You tried that just now," observed Harry with a faint smile, "and it was not exactly a success. You are most welcome to try again; only I think I may say that, if I can't manage her, you can't. I tell you I will keep her in her own room for to-night, if I can. To-morrow, most probably, we shall put out to sea again; and then you will all sing *Te Deum*."

I said nothing, feeling quite unable to contradict him; and, after a pause, he added, "What a triumph it will be for you all! Everybody will be forced to admit that you have shown the noblest unselfishness, and you will be rewarded by the cordial approval of your own conscience into the bargain. As for me, I also shall have my little consolation; for I shall always be able to tell Paulina now that she has been the ruin of me."

Then, as I still remained silent, he fell to whistling softly, and the rest of our walk was accomplished without further exchange of words.

(To be continued)



SOME think the giants of the seventeenth century were bigger giants than any that have since been seen. Others believe the difference to be not in the giants, but in those among whom they rank. As Tennyson puts it, "the marvel of the eagle is the less" because nowadays so many are grown to falcon size. In any age, however, Baxter would have made a grand figure. One thinks of Wesley, his superior in nothing but organising power, in whose case also the Establishment showed an unwisdom which contrasts sadly with the way in which Rome has generally managed to assimilate and utilise the most unpromising forms of enthusiasm. Baxter's treatment was the more excusable of the two; for the Curate of Kidderminster became chaplain to Whalley's regiment at Coventry, and even took the Covenant, though he bitterly repented of having done so. Moreover his controversial bitterness explains, though it does not justify, the harsh treatment he received. The theoretical comprehensiveness of "The Great Question Solved," that rare tract reprinted by Mr. Grosart, which proves (says Mr. Boyle) that "those who are now separated by acts of Christian worship may, if they will, join in teaching the essentials," is strangely opposed to Baxter's practical narrowness. In transition times it is hard to be logically consistent; and men like Venner (the O'Donovan Rossa of his day, who was the excuse for Charles II.'s Crimes Act, the Act of Uniformity) made the man Baxter certainly less broad than the writer of that famous passage in "The Saint's Rest" which handles Inspiration in a way that satisfied Dean Stanley. Baxter was not a revolutionist but a reformer. Cromwell he disliked and strongly suspected; the dislike was mutual; and his Coventry experiences made him (in Mr. Boyle's words) "hate Vanists, Seekers, Ranters, &c., with a perfect hatred." If Laud at the outset, or Morley later in his career, had been like Leighton or Ussher, or if Charles II. (who with his usual good sense saw that Baxter deserved a Bishopric) had done a wise thing instead of only talking about it, or if Baxter himself had had a

little of the statesmanlike instinct instead of expecting self-denying enthusiasm like his own in the narrow thinkers on both sides, the Church would be in a very different position now, and we should not have to blush for that disgusting caricature of justice which was perpetrated when Jefferies threatened the saintly Nonconformist with a whipping at the cart's tail. All this is clearly set forth in Mr. Boyle's admirable summary. His "Richard Baxter" in the "Men Worth Remembering" (Hodder and Stoughton) does not pretend to originality; but he has been to the best sources, among whom is Dean Stanley, though his untimely death prevented him from completing his survey of Baxter's works. It is remarkable how men of widely different views are at one in their estimate. Even Lauderdale was impressed by Baxter. "Read any and all of him," said Dr. Johnson; and Dr. Wordsworth, Master of Trinity, included in his "Christian Institutes" the "Catechising of Families," which he set far above "Nowell's Catechism." Of course Mr. Boyle tells all about the earnest, simple life at Kidderminster; the nailers who got on the leads when there was no room in the church; the patience with which the congregation submitted to sharp rebukes. He draws a striking picture of Baxter's state of health. His whole life was a contest of bodily weakness with spiritual strength.

"The Table Talk of Doctor Martin Luther, Fourth Centenary Edition" (Fisher Unwin), is a dainty little vellum-bound volume just the size for a breast pocket. Of course it is only a selection; so much the better, for of the abundant chaff there is not a trace. At the same time there is plenty to stamp the character of the great reformer, for instance the strange utterance: "We have sometimes to waken up God with words like Jeremiah's (xx., 14) or He would not listen to us." One is glad to find Luther an advocate for short sermons; though we think him wrong in "letting himself down to the lowest" when he preached. A somewhat exacting husband, he met his match in Catharine von Bora, his verdict being: "Were I to marry again I would carve an obedient woman out of stone. Otherwise I despair of finding obedience in women."

There is something very delightful in shooting where no Englishman has ever been before. Such places are hard to find; but "Savage Svâneta" (Bentley), is one of them. Mr. Phillips-Wolley's story of his wanderings, with the non-mountain-loving "Frank," of his roughing it in the sweltering heat of Caucasus gorges, of his drinking bout amongst those amazing wine-bibbers at Kutais, of his missing game in spite of the guidance of the skilful Simon, and of his being eventually rewarded with bears and mountain sheep, and snow-partridges *ad libitum*, is very pleasantly told. He did a deal of hard work. Breakfasting on a pipe and a skilful of water from an iron spring, and dining on bread that would try the digestion of an ostrich, is very well for once in a way; but you may soon have too much of it. Mr. Wolley's zeal literally wore him out externally; when he got back to Kutais he was the raggedest of scare-crows. The railway men could scarcely believe their eyes when they saw Prince A—come up to shake hands with him. His reward, besides the sport, was scenery enough for a lifetime, including "Glorious Ushba," the next highest peak to Elbruz, a vast cone of granite and granolite. The book will interest all Anglo-Indians from the frequent resemblances to sport in Cashmere. The Svâneta hunter wears the same grass sandals laced under the sole, without which no one could climb at all. The habits of the bear are much like those of his Himalayan brother. The host of butterflies drinking at the puddles remind us of the Valais. Mr. Wolley found none of the proverbial beauty of the women (this, too, is the usual experience in Cashmere). The Mingrelians are handsome, but very Jewish in type. So strong is the tradition that the tables of the Law are somewhere in the Caucasus that the Amsterdam Jews have sent three expeditions in search of them. The professed Jews of the district are no credit to the race; Mr. Wolley is specially wrath with one, a guide, who sat his horse up a steep hill, the two Englishmen of course dismounting and leading theirs. We are grateful to the reviewer who, in his notice of Mr. Wolley's "Caucasus" recommended him to try Svâneta; and we hope future travellers will keep up that character for English honesty which twice enabled him to borrow large sums from acquaintances of two or three days' standing.

Mr. G. M. Barker, in "A Tea Planter's Life in Assam" (Thacker and Spink, Calcutta and London), tells us it is hard to get information about Assam. When he made inquiries, all he could learn was: "Beastly unhealthy; better not go." His cheery, well-written little book will effectually prevent future planters from being in the same dilemma. His warning against going out "on spec." is emphatic. Assam, like other places, is overstocked; and, though salaries sound tempting, we must remember that everything is at famine price, and that in such a "dreadful climate" tinned meats, &c., are necessities of life. Flat though it is and swampy as Dickens's "Eden," it is the best place in the world for big game; but Mr. Barker is clearly not a sportsman, and prefers his tiger safely caged in the "Zoo." Even the native (of other parts of India) feels the climate; and a coolie hospital is, we are told, a *sine qua non* in every garden. Coolies, like everything else, are very dear; indeed, the labour question is the great difficulty. Next to this come brokers' charges, against which Mr. Barker would fain set up a co-operative society. It seems that London is shy of buying Indian tea, though it takes a great deal as "doctor" to Chinese teas, which is unfair to Assam, and a losing game for the buyers. We heartily endorse two of his bits of advice: First, to planters to avoid "pegs," no matter how low they feel; second, to friends at home to write without ever missing a mail to those who are in exile for the good of the rest.

We know more of Natal than we do of Assam; but there was still abundant room for such a thoroughly practical book as Mr. W. Peace's "Our Colony of Natal" (Stanford). Mr. Peace is the emigration agent, and he recommends the colony to many classes of people. A few enterprising "costers," he says, would be well patronised in Durban, for people would rather buy vegetables, eggs, &c., of Europeans than of Kaffirs. If the "coster" is at one end of the scale the ostrich-farmer is at the other. These birds were sold for 5*l.* apiece fifteen years ago, they now bring 25*l.*—a great falling off from the price to which speculators ran them up in the interim. Sugar seems to do well. The companies which make it also make profits, and the growers have in some cases realised 30*l.* an acre.

One does not like to limit the record of deeds of heroism, but really "The Voyage of the *Jeannette*" (Kegan Paul) might have been fully told in one moderate volume instead of in two of some 450 pp. each. Captain de Long was a very brave and self-sacrificing officer, enthusiastic himself, and possessing the rare faculty of rousing enthusiasm in others; and to Mrs. de Long, who remembers the gallant way in which he carried her off from Havre, and married her in the harbour on board the *Shenandoah*, he is naturally the first of all heroes; but still, the records of his boyhood rather concern his friends than the general public; and the portraits of the crew and the dogs we could well exchange for those of Alexey and Anequin, who did such good service in seal-catching. One is grieved, but not astonished that these two Indian hunters, so resourceful and polite, succumbed. Perhaps it is as well that the full record should be placed before the public, if only to prove the hopelessness of such an attempt as that in which De Long perished. We may possibly reach the Pole; but we can never reckon on forcing our way by the route from Behring's Strait to the north of New Siberia. The *Jeannette* was specially armed for Arctic work; but she first sprang a discouraging leak, and then was crushed in the ice among the "De Long" islands, in lat. 77°. We never read anything more harrowing than the closing pages of De Long's journals. When it came to eating dog,

camping out meanwhile after getting wet through with the glass below zero, the commander (as was his habit) scarcely closing his eyes night after night, a party was detached to seek help, the main body struggling on on half-ounces of alcohol, and, after that was used up, on spoonfuls of glycerine in hot water and tea of Arctic willow leaves. "Everybody pretty weak" is almost the last entry; and the saddest thought of all is that they were within the confines of comparative civilisation,—had for days been finding huts and drying frames and foxtraps. The various search-expeditions already detailed in the newspapers Mrs. de Long gives *in extenso*, as also the report of the Court of Inquiry on the loss of the ship. The volumes are a storehouse of material, out of which some brief yet compendious narrative may yet be compiled.

We lately called attention to the first number of the Rev. James Stormonth's "Dictionary of the English Language" (Blackwood), and stated that this reprint of a book already in high favour is practically a new work. Derivations are a special feature of this dictionary; phrases like "outrunning the constable" are not wanting. We have already protested against putting in "colleen-chyma" and such like words, and excluding one so thoroughly adopted into the language as "colleen." This second part goes nearly to the end of "C."

Mr. Herbert Slater's "Guide to the Legal Profession" (Upcott Gill) is a practical treatise on the various methods of entering either of its branches, giving the course of study for each of the examinations, and full papers of questions with the answers. In fact it forms a complete guide to every department of legal preparation. The recent changes in the law of debt are fully pointed out. It is well to know that creditors are barred by lapse of time unless an "express trust" is created by a testator for their payment. The advice about Justinian will be useful to many besides intending barristers, to whom, by the way, Mr. Slater holds out no hopes unless they work, work, work. Solicitors, he thinks, have much more prospect of success.

The firm of Sutton is so deservedly popular that we need not do more than name their book on "The Culture of Vegetables and Flowers" (Hamilton Adams). Many books profess to tell us all about gardening, but we know of none in which a year's work in vegetable and flower garden is more carefully and practically gone through than in the work before us. "Let there be no 'resting' of the ground" is good advice; so is "Sow in drills unless you want a half crop of poor quality." The chapter on the chemistry of garden crops is specially valuable and suggestive.

## ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS

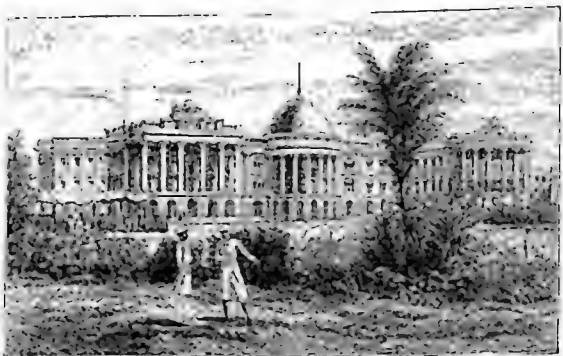
ALTHOUGH several of its most able members, including Mr. A. W. Hunt, Mr. G. Fripp, Mr. Boyce, and Mr. Frank Holl are not exhibitors, the Winter Exhibition of the Society fairly maintains its established standard of merit. Besides a good assortment of small finished pictures, it contains an unusually large number of sketches and landscape studies painted directly from Nature. Conspicuous among them, by reason of their purity of tone and the vivid impression of reality which they convey, are the numerous large studies on the Sussex Downs by Mr. R. Thorne Waite, "New-haven Valley" and "Lewes" are especially good examples of his work; we have seen nothing by him showing so much accuracy in the delineation of natural form and at the same time so suggestive of atmosphere and space. Mr. Herbert M. Marshall has also a happy faculty of perceiving and rapidly recording the essential and characteristic features of Nature. His study of "An East Anglian Port," with picturesque fishing craft in the foreground, is full of daylight, well balanced in colour, and handled with mastery and obvious ease. Near this hangs a rapidly executed but very complete and beautiful study of a woodland scene suffused with a warm glow of evening light, called "A Sunlit Valley," by Mr. Albert Goodwin. This painter's skill in dealing with subjects of an entirely different kind is shown in an admirable little drawing of "The Ponte Vecchio, Florence," and in a low-toned study of a picturesque street in "Perugia" by twilight.

Miss Clara Montalba's power as a colourist and her keen perception of picturesque beauty are shown in a series of studies recently made in Holland. In the otherwise admirable sketch of "Zwyn-drecht," and in one or two others a slight tendency to excessive blackness in the shadows is observable; but most of them are pure and luminous in tone as well as strikingly true in local character. The study of a picturesque old windmill, "Dordrecht," is a very charming work, exquisitely harmonious in colour, full of suffused light, and in excellent keeping. The absence of this last quality detracts a good deal from the value of several studies of picturesque sea-coast villages with figures, by M. C. Gregory. But though the relative values of the different features in these works are not observed, they show careful observation of nature, and are painted with great realistic force. Unlike these, a small picture of village life in the last century by this artist, called "The Squire," is remarkable for its general harmony of effect, as well as its truth of detail and finished workmanship. H. R. H. the Princess Louise contributes a small river study, "Erith," somewhat in the style of Miss Montalba, very harmonious in tone and skilfully painted, and a larger sketch of "The Canadian Falls, Niagara."

Sir John Gilbert sends no important work, but his sketch of armed men and horses in rapid movement, suggested by a passage of Ariosto, is a good example of his over-exuberant but firm and vigorous style. By Mr. H. S. Marks there are two highly finished drawings, "Science is Measurement," and "A Fugitive Thought," identical in subject and treatment with oil pictures that have already appeared; and by Mr. Poynter two finely-designed studies of heads in red chalk. The only work by Mr. Alma Tadema, "A Declaration," though it presents no especial feature of novelty, displays some of the best qualities of his art. The young Roman maiden and her lover, who are seated on a curved marble balcony overlooking the sea, if not very expressive in gesture, are admirably designed. The composition is excellent, and the varied reflections of light and colour on the draperies and the marble are rendered with unsurpassable skill. Nothing could well be more perfect than the workmanship of the little picture, or more harmonious than the general effect.

Mr. H. Wallis has a characteristic scene of Southern Spanish life, "A Gipsy Dance, Granada." The men, women, and children who are assembled in the *patio* of a stately house, besides being true types of Andalusian character, are naturally grouped and vivacious in expression. His small picture, a "Pastorale," glows with rich and well-harmonised colour. By Mr. W. J. Wainwright, one of the last elected Associates, there is a very clever picture, "Le Monde ou l'On s'Ennuie," representing a Parisian lady with an expression of weariness on her unlovely face, reclining in a chair with a book in hand. The colour and keeping of the work are excellent, and all the appropriate accessory objects are admirably painted in a fresh and unconventional style. A small costume picture by this artist, "Wandering Minstrels," displays the same good technical qualities, but is not otherwise interesting. A drawing by Mr. H. G. Glindoni, representing a seventeenth-century trooper examining a hole in his helmet through which a bolt has passed, is humorously expressive, but rather weak in colour and flimsy in execution. Mr. Norman Tayler sends a truthful and well-studied little picture of English rural life called "Gossips;" and there are good works in their accustomed styles by Mr. A. D. Fripp, Mr. E. A. Waterlow, Mr. G. H. Andrews, and Mr. E. K. Johnson.





THE VICEROY'S RESIDENCE



THE IMPERIAL INDIAN MUSEUM, IN WHICH THE EXHIBITION IS TO BE HELD, AND ONE OF THE ANNEXES



BELVEDERE, THE RESIDENCE OF THE GOVERNOR OF BENGAL



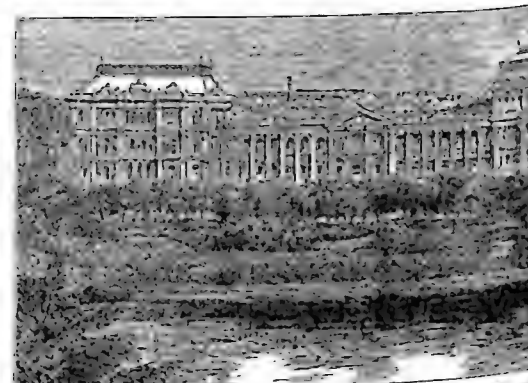
PANORAMIC VIEW FROM THE TOP OF THE MUSEUM, LOOKING NORTH-WEST



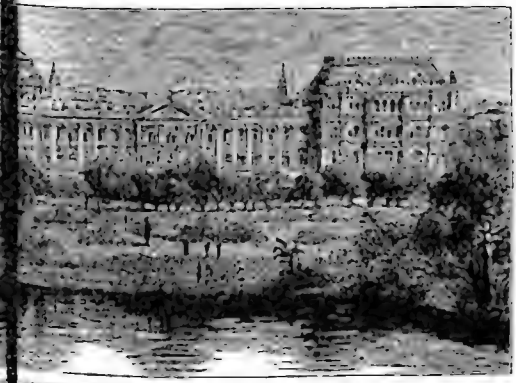
VIEW FROM THE TOP OF THE MUSEUM, LOOKING NORTH



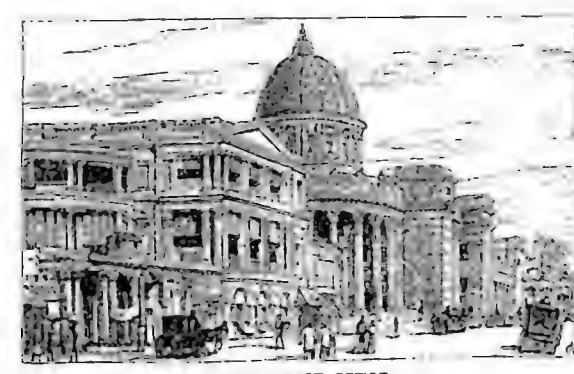
OLD COURT HOUSE STREET



GOVERNMENT OFFICE



HOUSE SQUARE



GENERAL POST OFFICE





"We have been praising sailors so long that some may think it is about high time we gave their wives a turn," says Mr. Clark Russell in summing up the adventures of "A Sea Queen" (3 vols., Sampson Low and Co.). This first among all sea novelists, in giving us a heroine instead of a hero, has thrown a striking amount of freshness into his essentially masculine romances, and has, moreover, fully redeemed himself from the one serious charge to which he was ever open—that of being unable to give interest to a woman. For other reasons than that resulting from the freshness of a new departure, "A Sea Queen" must be rated among the best of Mr. Russell's novels. It is as overflowing with incident as its predecessors; and its descriptions of sky and sea, in their beauty and in their terror, are unsurpassed, though we will not say unrivalled, by the same pen. The plot is slight and simple, though naturally a great deal happens before a young lady can be found in the position of navigating a brig without a crew. The main interest depends upon the story of a mutiny, and in bringing home to the reader's mind the claims of the merchant-captain (or shipmaster, as Mr. Russell prefers to call him) to sympathy and appreciation, it need hardly be said that the author has not ceased to be *laudator temporis acti*, and thus does his best to maintain the traditions that rendered our Merchant Service a school for heroes, and for heroes' mothers and wives. He also finds himself more at home on shore than usual; but then it is true we never quit the company of sailors, so that any little awkwardness in this respect seems appropriate and natural. The novel will have an especial interest for Tyne-side readers by reason of its connection with local seafaring life and character. But this special interest will be but the emphasis of a fascination that must needs be felt by all to whom the sea is not a mere dead name. And, if such there be, even these will be stirred by this vivid picture of an eternally new and wonderful world. As we have often had occasion to say before, Mr. Russell writes of the sea and of sailors, not from without, but from within, thus obtaining for his fiction the value of actual truth, as well as all the charm of seeming true.

The scandals of the Regency may form the framework of an amusing, if not very edifying novel, but they are scarcely adapted to make up a novel of themselves. The Hon. Lewis Wingfield, in "Abigail Rowe" (3 vols.: Bentley and Son), has adopted the latter course, and has used a neither interesting nor probable piece of genealogical romance, with a dash of conventional love in it, as a peg whereon to hang the story of George IV.'s marriage. Sheridan, Beau Brummell, Tom Cribb, and many other celebrities are introduced, with more or less reason, and play their several parts in anecdotes and episodes more or less well remembered. To some extent Mr. Wingfield takes sides—he has much liking, and no lack of excuses, for the Prince Regent, on the grounds of hostile circumstances, and certainly does not extend his toleration for the Princess of Wales. On the whole we are of opinion that the subject with which Mr. Wingfield mainly deals is best left to that sort of scandal which it is now the fashion to call history. Every serious student of those important matters knows where to find out all about them, while there is no occasion to revive them *virginibus puerisque* of a generation no longer practically concerned. The period is neither recent enough nor distant enough to confuse fact with fiction. Moreover the novel, though amusing enough at first, soon loses its liveliness by means of monotony, repetition, and failure to create sympathy for any of the characters, imaginary or real. Another fault is the author's general coarseness of handling. A spade ought to be called a spade, no doubt, but that is no reason why a spade should be dragged into a conversation for the sake of calling it one. If the period is responsible, that is an additional reason for leaving the period alone. The book is clever in many ways, of course; but the subject was not happy, and its treatment is not likely to raise Mr. Wingfield's reputation as a writer of history, or semi-history, in the form of fiction.

The authoress of "Phyllis," &c., has not hit upon a particularly interesting anecdote for expansion into the three volumes of "Rossmoyne" (Smith, Elder, and Co.). We are simply told that because Brian Desmond's father was falsely suspected of having jilted Monica's mother, Monica was forbidden to marry Brian. But, when the jilting turned out to have come from the other side, all opposition to the marriage was withdrawn. It is difficult to see how the relations of the parties were altered, or what the flirtations of one generation have to do with those of its successor. Possibly the Irish atmosphere of the novel has something to do with the matter. In any case, one anecdote serves as well as another to convey those scenes of sentiment which the novelist of the hour regards as the sole serious business of men and women, and supposes to be indispensable to the reading world. Of this sort of thing there is an even unusual quantity. That it is unrelieved by humour goes without saying, seeing that the possession of humour would render the production of works like "Rossmoyne" impossible. Nevertheless there are plenty of people who will thoroughly enjoy "Rossmoyne": to these it may be cordially recommended.

Among other works on our table which we have not space to review at length are the following:—"Ephraim; or, the Many and the Few" (3 vols., Bentley and Son), from the German of A. Niemann, by Christina Tyrell; "Quatrefoil" (3 vols., Chapman and Hall, Limited), by Mary Deane; "A Bartered Honour" (3 vols., Remington and Co.), by Robert Harbrough Sherard; "Golden Girls" (3 vols., Hurst and Blackett), by Alan Muir; "The Young Zemindar" (3 vols., Remington and Co.), by Horatio Bickerstaffe Rowney.

## CHRISTMAS BOOKS

### VI.

DEEDS of daring still form the chief theme of boys' books, and amidst a bushel of such fiction Mr. H. Kieffer brings out a grain of truth in "The Recollections of a Drummer-Boy" (Trübner). These reminiscences of the American Civil War are decidedly entertaining, painting in plain colours not only the dangers and glories, but the weariness and suffering of the campaign. Still, reality in North America pales in excitement before the wonders of imagination in South America, so glowingly depicted by Mr. G. Manville Fenn in "The Golden Magnet" (Blackie). Earthquakes, deadly combats between wild beasts and boa constrictors, escapes from jealous natives and gruesome reptiles, perils in mysterious grottoes, all crowned by the discovery of a vast treasure hidden by the Incas in early ages—what more can the lover of the marvellous desire? Plentiful exploits also—of a more likely kind—fill the pages of "Jack o' Lanthorn," by H. Frith (Blackie), whose chief characters share in the Siege of Gibraltar during the last century; while the luckless hero of Mr. Ascot R. Hope's "Kidnapped" (Sunday School Union) has much to endure when trapped as a slave for a Virginian plantation. Home school life seems tame after these feats, and the doings of "Dr. Jolliffe's Boys" (Blackie), though agreeably told by Lewis Hough, are of conventional type. Turning back to the age of chivalry Mr. H. Frith furnishes a fresh version of "King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table" (Routledge), which seems hardly needed, as Mr. Lanier has already gone

over most of the ground in "The Boys' King Arthur," and "The Boys' Mabinogion." Mr. Frith has toned down some objectionable features of the narrative, and modernised the spelling: Mr. Fraser contributes fair illustrations. The author's other work, "Ascents and Adventures" (Routledge), describes in brief and rather jocular style how the chief peaks of the world are scaled and conquered. As the book is intended for young people's information, it might as well be brought closer to date.

Certainly one of the least stereotyped tales of the present Christmas is the charming study of Finnish life, by Professor Friis, which Lord Ducie has well translated from the Norwegian as "Laila" (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge), preserving with fair success the poetic Scandinavian style. Apart from the interest of the plot the book abounds with characteristic touches of natural habits and customs, and is a refreshing change. So too are the imaginative romances written by George Sand for her grand-the children, "The Wings of Courage" (Blackie). Mostly unfamiliar to young England, these stories are particularly delightful from their graceful fancies, and the true love of nature eminently distinctive of the French writer, whose style is happily rendered by Mrs. Corkran.

Several familiar friends now come to hand. Some of the best-known stories in the Arabian Nights are revised for young people, as "Far-famed Tales" (Hogg), while a selection is made from Hans Andersen in "The Shoes of Fortune" (Hogg). To the latter Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie has prefixed a biography which does not give a very amiable presentment of the Danish author. Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" (S. Low), has been fitted with some capital drawings by Mr. Gordon Browne, and another classic, Mdm. de Staël's "Corinne" (Warne), wears a new English dress, thanks to Mesdames Emily Baldwin and Paulina Driver, whose translation is not altogether happy. Evergreen Robinson Crusoe appears four times over, the difference being that Stothard's illustrations and a brief biography of Defoe accompany both the editions published by Mr. Hogg, the larger being a particularly handsome copy, while G. Cruikshank is the artist of "Robinson Crusoe" (Chatto and Windus); and Mr. Fisher Unwin's edition contains coloured illustrations by Kauffmann, which are somewhat garish. Other reprints include two of the late Mr. Kingston's sea stories, "From Powder-Monkey to Admiral" (Hodder and Stoughton), and "Paddy Finn" (Griffith and Farran); Harleigh Severne's "Chums"—now added to the "Boys' Favourite Library" (same publishers); Mr. J. Cobb's graphic narrative of Paris in siege days, "In Time of War" (same publishers); "Grey Hawk" (Hodder and Stoughton); a shortened edition, by Dr. Macaulay, of the true story of a White brought up by Indians; Hawthorne's "Twice-Told Tales" and "Tanglewood Tales" (Warne); and Miss Lushington's lunar chronicle "Margaret the Moonbeam" (Unwin).

The remaining books on our list are of average merit, and need little comment. "A Waif from the Sea," by Kate Wood (Blackie), is a bright narrative for girls of the happy recovery of a long-lost child, and "Denny," by Annie Gray (Sunday School Union), deals with much the same topic in more exciting form, and with some good local colour. Conversion to Methodism and the conflict between religious and filial duty are portrayed in somewhat stilted fashion by Ashton Neill in "Melissa's Victory" (Sunday School Union). The Union provides a number of short improving tales, suitable for prizes in Nonconformist Schools. Thus, for girls, "Miss Stepeny's Fortune" shows the value of solid worth over showy metal, and "Miss Blake's Tines," by Fanny Simon, treats of reclamation by Sunday Schools; "Anthony Rogers," by Mrs. Skinner, and "Cousin Dorry," by Mrs. Clarke, illustrate the good influence of a child; "Alice Wilmot's Secret," by Mrs. H. B. Paull, depicts the beauty of quiet self-denial, and "Gerty's Childhood" again tells of a lost little one. For boys, temperance, industry, and uprightness are warmly advocated and duly rewarded in "Willie Anson" and "A Life's Motto," by W. Lacey, as well as in "Lory Bell," by K. Wood; "Herbert Dalton," by M. Bacot, and "Red Dave," by M. Macritchie (Partridge), the last authoress contributing for small people a striking instance of naughtiness subdued in "Poppy" (Partridge).

Amongst the ever-increasing mass of annuals it is impossible to do more than mention the most deserving. Still, *The Magazine of Art* (Cassell), can hardly be passed over without a word of praise for its many treasures, literary and artistic. The care and finish bestowed on the minutest detail as well as on the most important engravings, and the capital choice of papers on every imaginable subject connected with Art, show that the magazine fully maintains its high pitch of excellence, whilst steadily keeping an eminently popular tone. We can only enumerate *Every Boy's Annual*, *The Boy's Own Annual*, and *The Girl's Own Annual* (Routledge), *Chatterbox*, *Sunday* and *The Prize* (Wells Gardner), *The British Workwoman*, *Crystal Stories*, *British Juvenile Album* (Willoughby), *Day of Days* (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge), *The Friendly Visitor*, *The Welcome*, *Children's Friend*, and *Infants' Magazine* (Partridge), *Good Words* and *The Sunday Magazine* (Isbister), *The Rosebud Annual* (Clarke), *St. Nicholas* (Warne), *The Union Jack* (S. Low), unfortunately the last appearance for the present of this capital magazine for boys—*Young England*, and the *Child's Own Magazine* (Sunday School Union).

DIARIES, CHRISTMAS CARDS, &c.—We have to acknowledge the receipt of parcels of diaries, almanacks, and pocket-books from Messrs. De la Rue and Co. and Messrs. Letts. The latter firm send some most useful office diaries, amongst which a lock-up diary cover and a box of "monthly" diaries are worthy of notice. Messrs. De la Rue and Co. forward some handsome and useful leather pocket-books and purses, together with some very tastefully-designed card calendars, as well as plain calendars in leather cases for the mantelpiece, and almanacks destined for the workcase and waistcoat pocket. The same firm also forward a packet of really handsome Christmas cards, which are admirable both with regard to their conception and their execution. Some children's faces on palettes and chromolithographs on white silk are particularly worthy of mention. They are certainly among the best we have seen this year. Christmas Cards, however, continue to flow in apace, and each packet we receive contains so much that is novel and pretty that it is almost invidious to single out any particular firm for especial commendation. Messrs. S. Hildesheimer and Co. send some very gorgeous specimens of Christmas greetings, amongst which we are glad to see a slight tendency to return to the robin and holly of our youth, and also packets of etchings on the Isis and at Stratford-on-Avon—after the model of the miniature etchings on the Thames which were so successful last year.—One of the prettiest features of Messrs. M. H. Nathan and Co.'s parcel is a series of illustrations of little undraped children—one, an artist painting from a life-model, is charming. There is also a good set of soldiers' Christmas Days at home and abroad. Philipp Brothers forward a selection of very picturesque designs, and amongst them some capital specimens of plush cards, of which they claim to be the originators, and which are extreme favourites with ladies this season.—The next parcel on our list is from Mr. G. Wallis, the agent for Messrs. Meissner and Buch, of Leipzig, whose colour-printing is exceedingly good. One card, a palette ornamented with humming-birds, is especially worthy of praise.—From M. Samuel and Co. we have received some novel cards for Christmas, the New Year, and birthdays. Each is hand-painted, and is inlaid with a very pretty mother-of-pearl cross.—Mr. Albert Marx also sends us some very tastefully-designed cards.



MESSRS. W. J. WILLCOCKS AND CO.—A simple and pretty love song of medium compass is "I Knew My Love Was True," words by Edmund Webb, music by T. W. Charles.—Two songs suitable for the mess-room or a smoking concert are respectively "His Majesty's Health," written and composed by Williams-Williams, and a so-called humorous song, "Take For Two," which is funny, but vulgar: music by E. Jonghmanns, words by Henry Adams.—We have been asked to remind our readers that this firm has acquired the sole right for England of Klindworth's fingered edition of Chopin's pianoforte works. In a letter from Hans von Bülow, "How To Study Chopin's Music," he says:—"I know of two ways only to learn to render them properly, the first is to hear the grand master of all interpreters and executants, Franz Liszt, play them; the second to study them in Karl Klindworth's recent edition." We endorse in full the great pianist's opinion, and advise those of our readers who are in quest of a truly acceptable Christmas gift for a musical student to look over the above-named edition.—No. 2 of the *Organ Journal*, by Dr. W. J. Westbrook, is another welcome addition to the organist's repertoire, and, though but a young publication, it gives signs of vigour and success; it contains one of Mendelssohn's ever charming "Lieder Ohne Worte;" "Andante," from J. B. Cramer's Sonata I., No. 31; and the exquisite *Benedictus* from C. M. von Weber's "Mass in E flat."—Very showy, as its name would imply, is "The Sparkling Fountain," a *morceau brillant* for the pianoforte, by Sidney Vernon; it is worthy of being learnt by heart for an after-dinner performance.—Quaint and lively is "Au Petit Trot," a *faux-façon* for the pianoforte, by Louis Gregh.—Very excellent study will be found in No. 3 of "Fünf Klavierstücke" (Notturmo), by Philipp Scharwenka.—Five very good specimens of dance music for the coming Christmas season are: "The Merry War Waltzes," by Johann Strauss, published in "The Imperial Dance Album;" "Das Mondlicht Polka," by Fred Rossie, and "Bonhomie" (Le Petit Vin) Polka, by Leopold de Wenzel, both very inspiring and danceable; "Immer Treu," Valse, by Reginald Fane; and "Fleur de Noblesse Valse," by Georges Lamothes; these, too, are also highly to be recommended to our young readers.

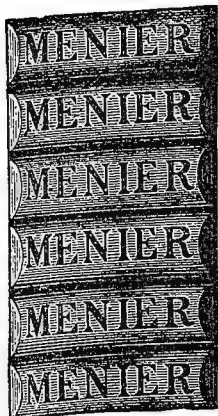
MESSRS. WHITE BROTHERS.—A cheerful little love ditty of a familiar type is "The Path by the Mill," words by Claxson Bellamy, music by Frank Swift, suitable for musical readings; compass from D below the lines to F on the fifth line.—A very bright and lively March, the melody of which will catch the ear, is "Marche Hilarité," by F. Croft.—A very pleasing addition to the dance music of the season is "The Miranda Mazurka," by E. M. Bray; the time is well-marked.—By Karl Muscat are three pieces; the one "Romanze für Violine oder Violoncello," with pianoforte accompaniments; an easy and brief drawing-room piece. The second is "Sweet May Waltz," tuneful, and written in an easy manner, without octaves.—A pretty frontispiece of a young girl in a boat gathering the title flowers is the only part worthy of praise in "The Forget-Me-Not Waltzes," which are thoroughly commonplace.

MESSRS. DUNCAN DAVISON AND CO.—A brace of very pretty songs, written and composed by Messrs. Clifton Bingham and Frederick F. Rogers, are respectively, "Over Leaf," one of the prettiest ballads of the season, and "I Know Not Yet," an ultra-sentimental love song of medium compass. Of the same school is "Forgotten," words by S. K. Cowan, music by R. F. Harvey.—Pathetic words wedded to suitable music are combined in "A Fairy Dream," written and composed by Oliver Brand and P. von Tugger; this song is worthy the attention of tenors in general.—Equally suitable for a soprano is "Golden Dreams," words by J. Stewart, music by J. L. Hatton.—"Killarney" is a very showy transcription for flute and pianoforte, by J. Harrington Young, of Balfe's popular song which bears that name.—Very charming specimens of their school are a "Minuet and Trio" for the pianoforte, by D. Robert Munro; they well deserve to be learnt by heart.—Quaint and original is "Tzigane," a pianoforte piece which will catch the ear at once, and become a general favourite; it is composed by Carlo Ducci, jun.—No. 6 of "Bluettes Classiques," selected from the works of great composers, is "Beethoven's Fugue in D," arranged as a pianoforte duet in a brief but very musically form. This series is of more than ordinary merit, as shown by the fact of its being selected for pupils by Madame Arabella Goddard.—"Musical Trifles" is the collective title of three simple and easy pieces for the pianoforte, composed by G. Gariboldi. No. 1 is "On the Serpentine" (Arietta), No. 2 "A Little Mazurka" (Piccola Mazurka), and "The Goldfinch" (Al Cardellino); they are all three very melodious.

MESSRS. JAMES NISBET AND CO.—"The Bible Psalter," being the Authorised Version of the Psalms pointed for chanting, and with chants adapted thereto, or specially composed for this work, which is by Sir Herbert Oakley, Mus. Doc., will prove of great interest to all who are concerned in Church music. In the preface the writer remarks that "Our Bible Psalter, according to the revision of King James, has very rarely been pointed for chanting, and the present issue is an attempt to meet a want now felt, by supplying those who use that version with its text so pointed and with chants adapted to each Psalm." He further compares the metrical versions with the Bible versions, and very justly remarks that the former, however good, must be lacking in the dignity and breadth of the latter. *Après* of congregational singing, Sir Herbert remarks, "Every congregation contains members who had better not attempt to sing under any circumstances, and whose unfortunate efforts to join mar the choral service and distract their more musical neighbours. It would be more edifying to themselves, as well as to others, if they made melody in their hearts, rather than attempted to do so with their voices." This is very true; but the grand stumbling-block to this happy state of affairs is, that people who torture others by their bad singing are unaware of the fact. This comprehensive work is worthy of a place in every musical library.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Undoubtedly Mr. James Mitchell is a clever man, but he has not the gift of smoothing away the difficulties which beset the path of the musical student; his "Theory of Music, with Rules for Measuring Scales, Intervals, their Inversions, &c.," is based upon a most bewildering and elaborate system, the possibly quite clear to the author, but thoroughly puzzling to the ordinary youthful mind (James Mitchell, Coatbridge).—Very welcome to young people with a taste for private theatricals are "A Christmas Gathering" and "The Glad New Year," each one arranged in the form of a *tableau*, with "Music Suitable for School and Home Gatherings." The music, by Josiah Booth, is arranged on the Tonic Sol Fa system as well as the ordinary notation. Four principal characters and a crowd of supernumeraries in the form of waits, carol-singers, fairies, &c., give something to do or say for numerous children in both these amusing little pieces; the songs and choruses are easily learnt and pretty to sing (Messrs. J. Curwen and Sons).—"Flee as a Bird" is a charming poem by "M. S. R.," adapted to a Spanish melody; the compass is within the octave of D below the lines (Messrs. Wood and Marshall, Huddersfield).





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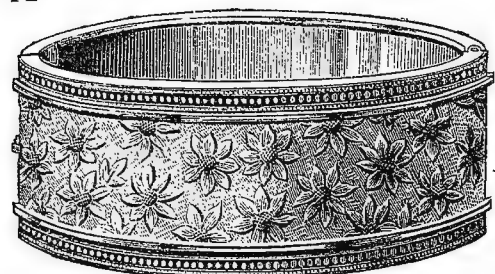
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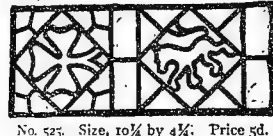


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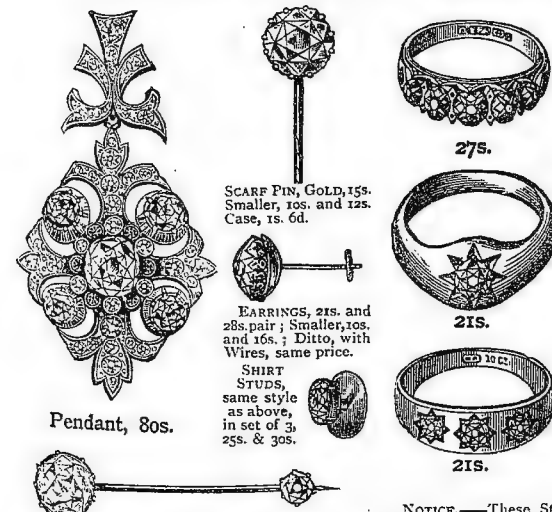
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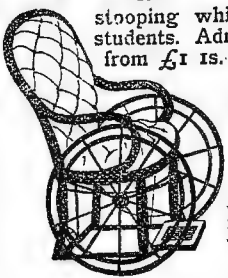
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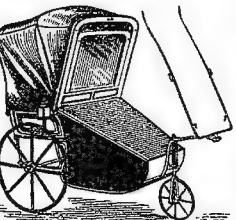


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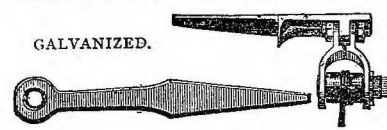
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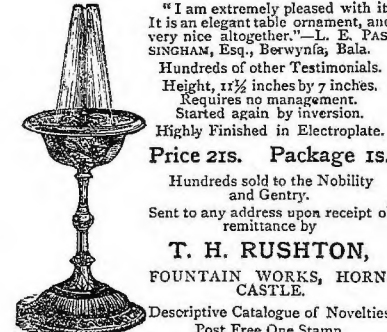


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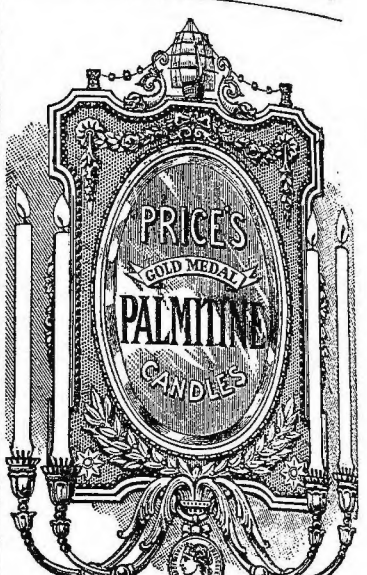
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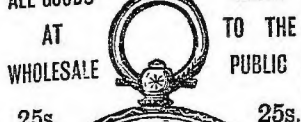


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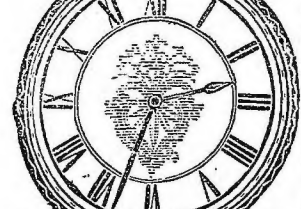
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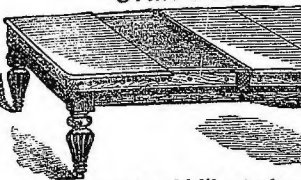
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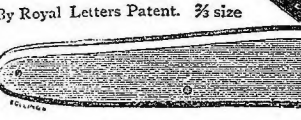
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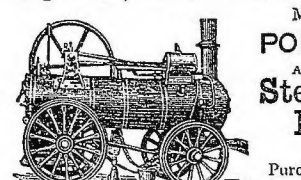
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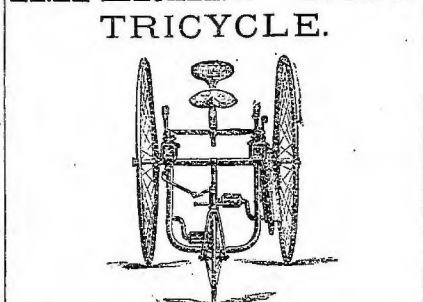
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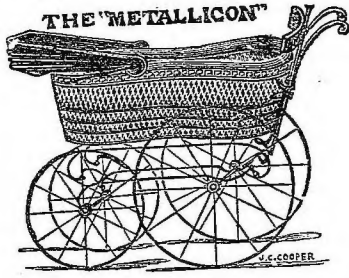
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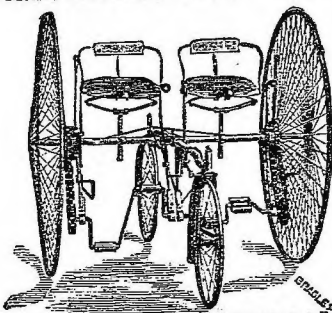


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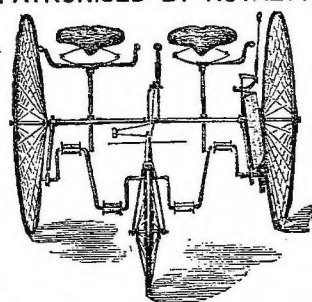
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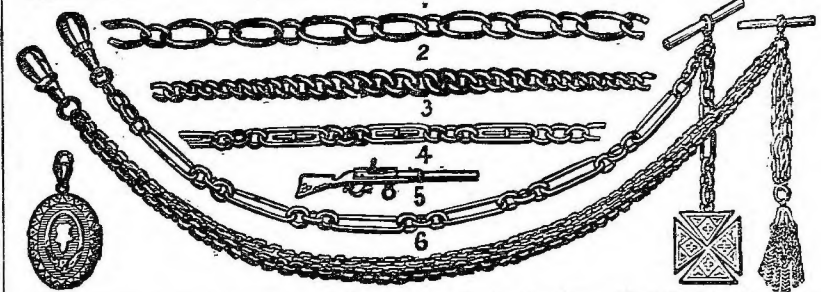
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